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CHOPSTICKS

NEW YORK

10

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a graphic movement from the southernmost tip of mainland Japan

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OCTOBER 18-27, 2007

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ARTISTS: OHTERA/SHOICHIRO TAKEI/CHINATSU

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Producer: Suguru Maruno
Curator: Keko Ueno



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Art Director	Elaine Hefner
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Published by Elsevier Inc.
300 Park Avenue East, New York, NY 10017-4299
Tel.: 212-633-2000; fax: 212-633-3300

For Advertising Info: TEL 213-421-9000 Ext.3002
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This feature story introduces various sake and shochu that are available in New York. From North to South, it features the history and philosophy of each brewery as well as flavor, characteristics, best serving styles and pairing ideas of the sake that it produces. And last but not least, we will present Japanese whiskey Yamazaki, the pride of Japan.



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Park is the great place to meet locals and to see their ordinary life in Tokyo. Pack your daypack and hit the road to parks during your stay in Tokyo to find the casual side of the cosmopolis.

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COMMUNICATION AND CREATIVITY, KEYS TO SUCCESSFUL ANIMATION

"When you are working with really creative people, the atmosphere is pretty much the same, whether they are Japanese or American." — Director **Michael Arias**

OSAFUJITSU / photograph by Alex Okunov



Michael Arias started his career in the film industry as a special effects technician in high-profile Hollywood movies, including James Cameron's *The Abyss* (1989) and *Raiders of the Lost Ark* (1981). Later, he directed a software program called "Face Brackets," which was applied in anime major films such as *The Cat in the Hat: The Nutcracker Story* (1994), Spike Lee's *Clockers* (1995) and Hayao Miyazaki's *Princess Mononoke* (1997). He also coproduced the video *The Animatrix* (2003) with the Wachowskis. *Tekkonkinkreet* is his directorial debut.

Michael Arias, the director of the recent anime hit, Tekkonkinkreet, discusses the differences between working in Hollywood and working in Japan, life in Japan, his admiration for the Japanese artistic community and his future projects, with **Chopsticks New York**.

How did you become a director of Japanese animation?

Michael Arias: Well, I had been working in Japan doing software engineering, computer animation and software design for about 7 or 8 years, when one of the designs I did got picked up by Studio Ghibli, who made *Princess Mononoke*. This wasn't the only studio who picked it up, but they were the ones who really got me interested and involved with Japanese animation. It was also through this software that I became involved with Gaji Muroto and we produced a short film about six or seven years ago, which turned into *Tekkon*. I'm not an animator, I work in special effects and there is a certain overlap with anime. It's due in a large part to my special effects experience and work as a programmer that I was able to find a niche in anime.

In a recent interview, you said that the situation of *Tekkonkinkreet* in the movie resonates with your own experience in Japan. Could you elaborate on what you meant by that?

MA: Actually, it had to do with the very accelerated sense of change and development here in Tokyo. To be honest, I think it's seen in most Asian cities, very unlike what you see in the U.S., but especially prevalent in Tokyo, Osaka and Hong Kong. There is so little space and you see construction and development going on everywhere. I mean, with all the construction going on you can see the evolution of the city, all the cranes and building work, it's just so over

inspiring. The original uncut story in *Feldman* reflected that image and I wanted to focus on that aspect of it [learning how to reflect that image became one of my greatest challenges].

So how was the experience of working with a Japanese crew?

MA: It was an incredible experience. To be honest, I don't find it that different. When you're working with really creative people, the atmosphere is pretty much the same whether they are Japanese or American.

Were there any specific highs or lows, or lessons you learned during this process? How did it differ from working in Hollywood?

MA: Of course there were. It was my first time directing so there were a lot of highs and lows. I would say that the highest of the highs was just working with such creative people, all working together as a team. The only low I can think of is that when it's your first time directing, you're learning to direct while you're also directing so I think it has a greater possibility to be a low for your staff and not for yourself. However, that may also be the difference between Hollywood and Japan. In Japan, you work a lot more hours on projects for a lot less money, regardless of who you are or what you're doing. By the same token, it's more gratifying because you really work with people who truly love what they do and that actually leads itself to greater creativity and inspiring moments because it's people doing what they love and not being caught up in the business aspects of film making. Animation has to be a team effort and I can't say enough about my team and what they meant to me on this project. Most animation directors map out what they are going to do with their storyline, whereas I prefer a more free-flowing style. I think that when you're working with artists you can't put limits on them; in the long run would just be putting limits on their creativity.

Turning to life in Japan, what are some of your favorite restaurants, areas or haunts in Tokyo, or Japan in general?

MA: I spend a lot of time in the old neighborhoods such as Shimabara, Ueno and especially Akihabara. When I was making *Tekkon*, my studio was in Kichijoji so I also spent a lot of time in Inagahara Koen. I love going to the old shops and under the train tracks in these neighborhoods. There's a place I go in Tokyo called Hara Park. It's a park that's filled with

old industry colors, a big fire pit and like a 30-foot slide that goes into what seems like a big mud pit. The great part is that the only thing you see are children playing, getting really dirty and just having a good time. You would never see that in the States. It would be deemed a public safety hazard, but that's one of the reasons I love it here.

Tell us about your current project.

MA: It's actually a live-action feature film, kind of a Japanese road movie about a 14-year-old girl. I've just been finishing up casting the lead, which was unusually difficult. I mean 13-year-old girls look like they're seven and 14-year-olds look 18 or 20. The people age here so drastically, so it was actually quite challenging.

Would you like to share any future plans you might have outside of your current project?

MA: Sure. If all goes well with this project I would like to do another animated feature. But I think the idea will have to cook a little while longer.

So would you do this project in Japan?

MA: Yes, I would like to do Japanese animation because it's by far the most exciting. In my opinion, the Japanese audience is much more sophisticated and open to new ideas when it comes to film, especially

animated features. Plus, the film making community here is small so the connections you can make are incredible, not to mention that all the people involved are so creative. We can take risks and push ourselves. In the end, it's the creativity that drives me. It's kind of a blessing and a curse.



Animation (above) and Jena (below) in Akihabara neighborhood

Tekkonkinkreet

Director: Michael Arata / Japan/ 2005

Writers: Taisyo Matsumoto (Japan), Anthony Westhead

Cast: Katsunori Iwatsuki, Yu Asa, Masahiro Motoki



Kuro [Black] and Shiro [White], two street-smart kids, live in Takemachi, a vibrant yakuza town. When real estate developers start invading their city, the two kids do their best to defend their turf, trying to keep Takemachi from being transformed into a bland, modern cityscape. In order to protect it, they attempt a mission impossible: against their enemies' invulnerable real estate henchmen, yakuza thugs, and the police. Their battle in the face of overwhelming odds raises the question of what exactly is most important to a modern city.

©Teito Matsuoka / Olegakubun. English, Aomik Ace. Directed G. cinema. TORO USA.

Fashion

Fashion Gets More and More Global
Japanese Women Publish the Coolest Dictionary Ever

If you are interested in fashion, "The Illustrated Dictionary of Fashion" will be the only book you will need. This brand-new professional and detailed dictionary is written in three languages (American & British English and Japanese) by two Japanese authors, Mina Wakasaka and Yoshiko Sugimoto. They have both worked as correspondents for *Sankei Shimbun* (the Japan's largest fashion specialty newspaper) in America and the UK for 18 years. While being engaged in the fashion industry, they were sometimes faced with the fact that English terms in fashion dictionaries are not necessarily used amongst people within the industry and also that some terminology differ between America and the UK. For example, British people use the word "trouser" instead of "trousers," which is used by Americans and the Japanese. This kind of intercultural semantics urged them to devote themselves to the project of editing and publishing this dictionary. Contents cover a wide range, from fashion item names to business terms. The uniqueness of this book lies in the illustrations within the dictionary. You can see details and subtle differences visually. All definitions are gathered from their actual experiences in the fashion industry. Phonetic notation for the proper pronun-

ciation of Japanese terms can be useful when you are doing business with the Japanese. Not only for professionals, ordinary people can use this dictionary as a fun reference. Each column includes trivia information like historical and cultural backgrounds that you might really enjoy. This is a cool dictionary for people who are into fashion, trends — and checking out New York, London, and Tokyo's Fashion Week!



Illustrated Dictionary of Fashion: \$75.98
(ISBN: 978-1-44734-110-6)
Available at New York: Kinokuniya Book Store
<http://www.kinokuniya.co.jp/book/index.htm>

From Japan

Time for Japanese Adults to Play Portable Video Games

The video game kingdom of Japan never stops expanding their power. While the young generation is currently the market's biggest customers, the video game industry is trying to get a new audience with portable video game players and practical gaming software. *SUDDO!*, one of most "New Yorkers'" favorite number games, is originally from Japan. The Japanese video game market for used on the fact that brain training games are loved by a diverse number of people, and can be accepted by adults who usually don't play regular video games. Besides, Japanese people tend to love portable, compact gadgets with many functions and convenience, like cell phones. Sending emails by cell phone is more popular in the subway of Japan, rather than listening to music with an iPod. Now, people seem to be getting addicted to using portable video games for fun during commuting time. Nintendo DS, the pioneer of this genre, is producing many brain-training games that are mainly used for educational purposes, like cooking recipes and learning the English language. You can even practice Yoga with the DS! The software helps you check your yoga poses, which are shown as images on the screen. Of course you can still enjoy standard Sudoku crossword puzzles anytime. Now, people's leisure time, which used to be spent mainly

reading books or magazines, is getting more visual and virtual through video game players. Now adults have a reason to enjoy these handy, practical, and intellectually stimulating devices in Japan.



Nintendo DS official website
www.nintendo.co.jp/games/index.html



School

Weaving is Very Therapeutic - Find Your Own Way of Expression

The power of this art is quite sociologically inspiring. Come to Loop of the Loom, and weave your own designer hand-made accessories. Loop of the Loom is a venue studio and store that has introduced the award winning SAGRI hand-weaving program to all ages and abilities.

SAGRI is the free-style weaving association founded by Misao Ito, in Osaka. The SA of SAGRI is the first syllable of the word SAI. SAI, found in JIZEN vocabulary, means everything has its own individual dignity. The IRI of SAGRI means weaving. Misao started weaving when she was 57 years old and created her own loom and style, free from the traditional concept and rules of weaving.

She manages this association with the belief that no matter who you are, everyone can express themselves on the canvas of their very own weaving. Tapestry. With this concept, Misao has been involved with SAGRI weaving groups for educational and

therapeutic activities for over 35 years. Now SAGRI weavers have spread workshops and they do workshops and classes in each community. SAGRI has especially contributed to disabled people as a rehabilitation method and as an art form.

Luckily for New Yorkers, aside from their main studio in NJ, some classes are available in Manhattan. A regular class is given at the second Sunday-every month. Others include needle-felt classes, camp for kids, birthday parties, and weaving workshops. Also in art therapy, classes are offered for people who want to be professional.



Loop of the Loom / SAGRI New York
400 Perry Avenue, Englewood, NJ 07038
Tel. 201-943-4071 www.loopoftheloom.com

Restaurant

The Legacy of Shinbashi Restaurant is Resurrected in Midtown, NYC

Have you ever heard of Shinbashi restaurant? It used to be one of the most authentic Japanese restaurants during the 80's, which was very rare then since Japanese food was not as popular as it is today. Now, the legendary Shinbashi restaurant has come back to New York City. One of the former owner's sons (the other son is the owner of Wajima restaurant), revived Shinbashi, just a few blocks away from its original location. Inheriting the previous Shinbashi's taste, the new Shinbashi offers the same authentic and stylish Japanese dishes as well as the signature, very traditional sushi it was famous for. The menu includes typical, popular dishes like edamame and fried seasoned chicken, while also serving more delicate,

substantial main courses such as tender grilled steak and kani-maki and noodles. The restaurant has a huge space that can be divided into three sections — main dining, mezzanine dining, and bar lounge on the basement floor. The high ceiling makes this restaurant feel very spacious and is good for private parties and functions. Shinbashi also has a take-out/deli section on its 49th street side, which is perfect to pick up your lunch or snack. While New Yorkers are fondly naïve when it comes to Japanese food, Shinbashi brings us spices and the dignity of Japanese cuisine.



elaborate dishes with seasonal ingredients. Me. Ika (some thirty sliced squid served with dashi broth), and winter melon with crabmeat, gray... These creative dishes are very popular among women. Male customers are quite happy with the more

Shinbashi Restaurant
2 East 49th St. (bet 5th & Madison Ave.)
Tel. 212-413-8555

Sushi Menu 11 Classic Tigan
Dinner Menu Sat. & 8:30pm-12am
Closed on Sundays

デパ地下 (DEPACHIKA)

DON'T CALL THEM FOOD COURTS



The only way to experience the whole spectrum of Japanese food culture in one hour is to visit a **Depachika**. It's a mash-up of two Japanese words, "Depa" from "department store" and "Chika" meaning basement. In Japan, all the best department stores have spectacular food departments in their basements, usually containing over 200 stalls selling every kind of food imaginable: lunch boxes, bread, cakes and exotic specialties from every region of Japan, as well as from every corner of the world. In a Depachika you can shop for Rauschen's premium trawls and for the best pickled squid from Hokkaido all at the same time.

Although they still lure lots of food savvy customers as well as a solid stream of housewives, the Depachika is now entering the modern age, many of them remodeling to keep up with the changing life-styles of modern Japan. **Isetan**, home of the most popular Depachika, altered three floors this past June, deliberately abandoning the way they divided the space and re-constructing under a new philosophy that approaches food from three angles: Cook, Eat, and Enjoy. The result is a Depachika with four specialized areas: the Ingredient Market, Western

Foods, Japanese Foods and Enjoyable Foods.

Mitsukoshi, another renowned department store, has just re-conceptualized their Depachika as a part of their extensive renewal of the food floors in their Minamishi Main Store at the end of August. **Sumiko Kametani**, manager of the Chef's & Specialty Dining section, says, "We are proposing a new lifestyle to our customers by introducing them to new foods." They tore down the old, traditional stalls and replaced them with small, stylish eateries each run by one of Japan's most famous restaurants. Lunches cost between \$10.00 and 15.00 and takeout starts at around \$6.00. This renovated Depachika immediately became a favorite lunchtime destination for enormous crowds of young women working in nearby offices.

"We consider communication with our customers to be very important," says **Miyako Otsuka**, manager of Italian Public Relations. And so they've designated 20 sales staff to act as food specialists including a Vegetable Sommelier, Rice Apposers, Tea Instructor and Cheese Monger. Additionally, 4 other advisers are on the floor to guide customers to exactly the right food they may want for any occasion.

Offering new ways of eating and drinking are not the only purpose of the recent renovations. It's also a part of a marketing strategy to change customer flow. "We intend to attract the fashion savvy customers who usually shop only on the upper floors," explains Ito. Otsuka of Isetan. "And, since we remodeled three months ago, we've been successful." Ito. Kametani of Mitsukoshi also admits, "Our Depachika is the key to bringing in customers." They also expect many of their Depachika customers to shop by the other floors.

The innovative remodeling includes more meticulously planned displays, a barrier-free environment and close collaborations with top chefs, to name a few. Thanks to the renovation, modern Depachika, you can now enjoy a wide array of foods, get inspired by professional advice, and experience museum quality presentation all in one stop.

(Editor: Makemasa)



Italian chargrilled steaks display every two weeks. The steaks, apples dominate the windows.



A day earlier, another display effects in Isetan, they changed the lights of their window display. Now you see the steaks from above whereas traditional steaks only allowed you to appreciate them from the side.

10/26
Fri.

10/29
Mon.



EZO FUKURO
MISO RAMEN
from SAPPORO

KUKURU TAKOYAKI
OCTOPUS BALLS from Osaka



KOBE FUGETSUDO
WAFFLES from Kobe



HIRANOYA
SABA MACKEREL
SUSHI from Nagasaki



SUGINAGA
KAMABOKO
FISH CAKES
from Nagasaki



Contents subject to change without prior notice.

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JAPANESE KYOTO STYLE HOME COOKING

Hibino

255 Henry St., Brooklyn, NY Tel. 718-265-4032 www.hibino-brooklyn.com
 Lunch: Mon-Fri 11am-2:30pm, Sat-Sun: Mon-Fri 11am-2:30pm, Sat-Sun 11am-2:30pm
 Brk: Sat 10:30am-11:30am, Sun 10:30am-11:30am

Hibino is a home-style Japanese restaurant that opened in the heart of Manhattan in the quiet, sophisticated neighborhood of Cobble Hill. The high-ceilinged space has off-white walls that contrast with dark brown tables and chairs. The big front windows let in brilliant sunshine that bathes the whole restaurant. The relaxing, cafe-like atmosphere makes it easy to forget time as you hang out and relax. The "hibi" part of the name "Hibino" means "every day" in Japanese, and the menu reflects this theme, as it changes daily and features reasonably priced Kyoto-style *okunashi* (Japanese tapas) and comfort food along with sushi and other mainstays. The two owners, Hiroshi Hibino and Misuzu Fukuda, aim to create dishes so good you could happily eat them every day, and they work hard to turn out such a huge variety of fare that even regular customers never get bored. Beef *kakuni*, or braised short ribs, is a good example of Hibino's comfort food-style menu that warms both the heart and stomach. This carefully prepared and finished dish has a totally different taste to that of the more typical *buna* (no *kakuni*: slow-simmered pork belly).


BEef KAKUNI


The painstakingly prepared slow-simmered beef has the intensity and flavor of beef stew. The delicate shreds melt in your mouth and the beef is so tender you can easily push your chopsticks right through it. \$17

The most popular dish among Japanese customers **BEST 3!**

- 1 Freshly Made Tofu (\$14)
- 2 Okunashi Chawanmushi (\$4)
- 3 Salmon Yaki Yaki (\$14)

JAPANESE CONTEMPORARY SUSHI

Natsumi

229 W 52nd St. (bet 5th Ave & Broadway) Tel. 212-254-2288
 Monday 11:30am-11pm Tuesday-Thursday 11:30am-11:30pm
 Friday 11:30am-11pm Saturday 4:30pm-11pm Sunday 4:30pm-7pm

While a Japanese-Italian fusion restaurant might seem like something that's been around, until Natsumi came along, you may have been hard put to find one. The Natsumi menu, based around Japanese dishes, is uniquely accented with Italian ingredients like Parmesan cheese, basil, arugula, and balsamic vinegar. The uniqueness doesn't stop with the menu, as you enter Natsumi, you will find the restaurant on the left while on the right there is a lounge bar for double the entertainment possibilities. The crassness continues with the interior design, which combines Japanese *stucco* walls and Italian frescoes with a modern take on a traditional Japanese lattice pattern. The excellent *pizza nuova* perfectly embodies the restaurant concept. Among the three types they offer, the spicy crab with tobiko and avocado pizza has a thin pizza crust spread



with a spicy sauce and topped with avocado, crab, lettuce and a dollop of tobiko. The healthy combination will make you feel as though you're eating a salad. The crunchy crust and bursting tobiko are also a delight for your mouth. This new style of Japanese cuisine definitely merits a try.

PIZZA NUOVA—SPICY CRAB WITH TOBICO AVOCADO


With the spicy crab pizza a cat also (seriously), it's the perfect casual snack food to eat with your hands. (\$13.50) The other two pizzas are huge & spicy (spicy and tobiko) (\$17 each.)

The most popular dish among Japanese customers **BEST 3!**

- 1 King Crab Crampling (\$14.95)
- 2 Pizza Nuova (\$12.50/\$13.50 12 inch)
- 3 Sushi Deluxe (\$14.95)

JAPANESE SUSHI
Sushi Ariyoshi

118 Broadway St., 11th fl., 10038 • Tel. 212-269-1884

Lunch Mon-Fri 12pm-2pm

Dinner Mon-Thurs 4:30pm-1am, Fri & Sat 4:30pm-1am, Sun 4:30pm-11pm

There are some nights when you just want to enjoy quiet drinks with friends. Sushi Ariyoshi is the right place for those kinds of nights. The comfortable large space is decorated to reflect the four seasons. The pleasant wine makes another drink feel irresistible, as most people stay there longer than they ultimately thought they would.

"Let the customers experience authentic, non-Americanized real Japanese food," is the restaurant's motto, which actually attracts many Americans (80% of the customers). Sushi Ariyoshi serves high-quality sushi, which is at the "Japanese customer satisfaction" level, but to appeal to the majority of customers, there are many American favorite rolls on the menu as well. Of course, like tsukapa Ariyoshi (located in midtown east), Sushi Ariyoshi serves the same tsukapa style tapas dishes, which are best accompanied by sake, shochu, beer, izakae, or other Japanese liquor based cocktails. This very Japanese authenticity is exactly what Sushi Ariyoshi purveys. Located at the Central Village, near Union Square, Ariyoshi's professionalism appeals to the matured, sophisticated crowd who can tell real things from fashion.


MINI BBQ (SEAFOOD)


A small party can enjoy five different types of BBQ. Dinner four kinds of BBQ include kani, beef, tongue, Redwing crab and Duck. \$15.

The most popular dish among Japanese customers. **BEST 3!**

- 1 Tuna Teriyaki (\$5.50)
- 2 Mini BBQ (Seafood) (\$10)
- 3 Teriyaki Skewers (\$4)

CAFÉ CREPE CREPE
Cecel

135 Ave. des Arts, 5th fl., Midtown East • Tel. 212-682-8220

Sun-Thurs 10am-midnight, Fri-Sat 10am-2am

Cecel Cafe Crepe is a very recent addition to the East Village restaurant scene. Owner Ken Yoda, who honed his Japanese and French cooking skills at Sushi of Gail and Poyent, says, "I wanted to create a place where you could really get your hands on authentic tasting crepes." The crepe looks from Breizh France, a pancake-like cretonn originally made with buckwheat flour. It is often filled with ham and cheese and eaten as a savory snack. Cecel offers 18 different crepe fillings, from chocolate & banana and apple taste dessert-style crepes to original savory concoctions filled with hillo and tofu. What makes Cecel crepes unique is their shape. Unlike the standard triangular folded crepe, Cecel crepes are rolled up and wrapped in paper, more closely resembling soft-serve ice cream cones. The ingredients are all high quality like those used in the restaurants of top hotels and the loving attention to detail that goes into the making of these crepes and the cream filling is evident with every bite.


DOUBLE MANGO


It's an odd feeling to take a big bite out of such a delicate treat while making the East Village streets. Peach mango and mango sauce are a winning combo. \$2.75 and \$4.75 for small size.

The most popular dish among Japanese customers. **BEST 3!**

- 1 Cheese Banana (\$4.50/\$5.75 for small)
- 2 Red Beans (\$4.75/\$4.00)
- 3 Apple Tiram (\$3.95/\$4.00)

JAPANESE SAKE BAR

Sake Hana

205 E. 9th St. (bet. 3rd & 3rd Ave.)
Tel: 212-693-0563

Weekdays: 5pm-1am Weekends: 5pm-3am

Don't worry if you're not a sake aficionado. Knowledgeable staff at Sake Hana will assist in choosing the right sake to accompany an assortment of Pan Asian tapas. Ideal for a blind date or any date for that matter, the ambience at this cozy hole in the wall will keep you coming back with that special someone. Inaugural exposed brick, yōka dotted couches, fabric lanterns, and candles burning at each table, all set to French lounge music. Events such as sake tasting also take place at this joint. Sake lectures are given by brewers from different companies to educate those interested. As sake is becoming a drink of choice, popular brands such as Densai (Furuguchi Prefecture) and Shikiken (Fukushima Prefecture) are on the tips of tongues among regulars. As is the case with wine, Sake is produced regionally. Unless you're an avid drinker it's unlikely you can distinguish regions and brewer at the start. A regional menu with labels in color provides information on brewery and region with brief descriptions. For an overview, try the sake sampler with a choice of any 3-6-9 up to 50 different kinds. Don't forget to check out seasonal sales too!



MANGO TANGO



Del. only cucumber and tobiko (flying fish roe) all wrapped in fresh mango (\$15)

The most popular dish among Japanese customers: **BEST 3!**

- ① Curry Puffs (\$4) ② Stirring Sake Cubes (\$11) ③ Mango Tango (\$15)

JAPANESE ROBATA

Aburiya Kinnosuke

212 E. 9th St. (bet. 3rd & 3rd Ave.) Tel: 212-692-9456

Lunch Mon-Sat: 11:30am-2:30pm Dinner: Mon-Sat: 5:30pm-12:30am
Sun: 5:30pm-11:30pm No lunch on Sundays

This isn't your neighborhood joint, nor is it a casual grill. Aburiya attracts a select crowd, mostly businessmen for lunch and like-minds for dinner. UN staff are among its regular clientele. Aburiya literally means "grill," but this grill is not what you have in mind if you're thinking of communal grills built into tables. Instead small square tables with bircho-ken charcoal (which create less smoke) are brought to individual customers to experience the authentic Tokyo "Shichirin grill." What's the difference between Yakitori and Robata? Robata uses indirect heat creating a smoky but tender touch to an assortment of meats. Aburiya's interior maintains a simple and traditional Japanese design with four private booths behind shoji screens, a line of 6 tables, and a counter seating area around a grill. A best meat green cakes are well and blends well with the natural hues of various woods. An all-Japanese staff adds to the authenticity seeing that Robata requires specialty skills. Reservations are recommended – most nights are booked – as this two-year old Japanese-American partnership makes a humble crowd to preserve exceptional Robata in Manhattan.



HOLUBAYO



Three kinds of meat, pork, beef and longer beefsteak atop a traditional Yakitori (Yakitori) wood charcoal with scallions and seasoned with (black pepper) (\$18)

The most popular dish among Japanese customers: **BEST 3!**

- ① Yakitori/Grilled Cornmeal Chicken (\$14) ② Sashimi - Five Kinds (\$48) ③ Today's Houbu/Miso & Houbu Puff (\$12-15)

FRENCH GLOBAL
Chubó

8 Courtenay St., Steeles & Humber St.
Tel: 212-251-0200 www.chubos.com

Sat. Tue. Wed. 8:00-11:00pm Thurs. Fri. Sat. 8:00-11:30pm Closed Mondays

Fine food travels borders. In Claude Charagne's kitchen at Chubó you will find an assortment of exotic ingredients prepared with an acute French sensibility (not to mention formal methodology). At first exclusively a prix fixe menu, this hotspot now offers bold fusion ensembles that will surpass expectations. Small, personable and unpretentious, Chubó is open to the street and yet tucked away in a well-lit enclave. Romantic date or gathering of friends and family here the service is impeccable, prices affordable and above all a gastronomic delight. Check the website for monthly prix fixe dinners featuring one ingredient available in three different ways (4-course dinner for \$65 with wine pairing \$82). To celebrate origins Chubó is also offering a 3-course prix fixe on select nights (\$25 with wine pairing \$50). Headliners will agree you can't find a better prix fixe in the city for the quality. Be sure to try one of the adventurous dessert options like Sake Jello with Avocado Ice Cream & Blue Curacao (\$16). A small but selective list of wines, sake, beer and cocktails makes for a perfect evening in the Lower East Side.


BEST TWO WAYS


Delicious entrée of beef with creamy and green sauce topped with cheese (\$14).

The most popular dish among Japanese customers is **BEST 3!**

- ① Beef \$14
- ② Tuna \$15
- ③ Chocolate soufflé with vanilla chocolate cream sauce \$16

JAPANESE OKINAWAN CUISINE
Suibí

222 E. 42nd St., 3rd and 4th fls. | Tel: 212-695-1463
Lunch, Mon-Fri. 11:45am-2:15pm

Dinner Mon-Fri. 5:00pm-10:00pm Sat. 5:00pm-10:15pm Closed Sundays

Okinawans are noted for their extraordinary longevity. Given the saying "you are what you eat" it would be useful to look into Okinawan cuisine to discover the secrets of maintaining prosperous health. Suibí offers a rich experience of authentic regional cuisine alongside a platter of knowledge regarding the Okinawan Program (well known among dieters). The restaurant is situated in a nondescript strip down in Midtown East with a variety of seating options — booths along a brick exposed wall, tables clustered in the back, and a counter by the entrance with a brown clay pot simmering with Shabu. Some well-known dishes include Goya (bitter melon in dialect) prepared in numerous ways. Affordable and healthy, Suibí will serve both vegetarians and non-vegetarians as pork is another popular ingredient. For fish lovers, there are sashis and sashimi options.



Japanese customers love sets consisting of miso soup, rice, one main dish and a few side dishes. Restaurants serving this national favorite are limited in Manhattan choosing both of Asian and American crowd. Lunch or dinner, Suibí is an experience not to be missed.

OKINAWA DINNER SPECIAL/OKINAWA NOODLE SET


Hot noodle soup topped with cooked pork belly, sautéed and pickled and green seaweed with butter and onion, light rice, and wakame (pickled Chinese cabbage) (\$15.95)

The most popular dish among Japanese customers is **BEST 3!**

- ① Gyoza/Champana \$17.95
- ② Rafutee (simmered belly of pork) \$24.95
- ③ Okinawan Noodle Soup \$12.95

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 10 Ave. (btwn 14th & 15th St.)
 212-675-0559

East Village **Miya's KJ & B.B.**
 147 2nd Ave. (btwn 2nd & 3rd Sts.)
 212-219-2858

East Village **Nobu-ya**
 40 Cooper St. (btwn 7th & 8th Sts.)
 212-254-0542

East Village **MINCA**
 244 E. 10th St. (btwn Ave. A & B)
 212-558-6885

East Village **Nobu**
 90 St. Marks St. (btwn 1st & 2nd Sts.)
 212-678-2175

East Village **Nautilus Cuts Zou**
 39 St. Marks St. (btwn 2nd & 3rd Sts.)
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 130 Bleecker St. (btwn 2nd & 3rd Sts.)
 212-254-7380

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 212-254-6900

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 212-677-7952

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 212-674-6555

East Village **Sapporo East**
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 212-254-4992 www.selago.com

East Village **Sukuboku**
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East Village **Suzuki Restaurant**
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East Village **Urasawa**
 Urasawa is a Japanese restaurant
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East Village **Waboku Yabuchi**
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East Village Planet Fitness
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East Village Sing Sing (Ave. A)
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East Village Sing Sing (St. Marks)
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Lower Midt Ave/Bar/Bar & Lounge
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Man Noodle Shop
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Gold on Unicorn
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Jung Jung
21 E 10th St (bet 1st & 2nd Ave)
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Li's Dumpling House
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21 E 10th St (bet 1st & 2nd Ave)
904-661-8888

Dash Bogen
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Goan Mee Dk
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HAN BAE
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HANGHANG
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Kan Gung Sun
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Woo Choo
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Dan Sun's
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Sun
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Li Hoo
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TOP SEAFOOD FOR TOP CHEFS

Japanese cuisine has a surprising number of things in common with other types of cooking such as Italian, French, Chinese and you name it. **CHANTO**, a fine Japanese-cuisine restaurant in West Village of Manhattan, amazes you with unmissable arrangement of Japanese food.

Mr. Kiyotaka Shinoki, the executive chef of **CHANTO**, has plentiful experience in different culinary styles, Chinese, French, Italian and Japanese. With all that, he offers New York gourmands the best of modern and authentic Japanese style food.

"New York is different from Tokyo in terms of what people get to know the new restaurant," Mr. Shinoki admits. He was however sure that New Yorkers are the right people who would recognize and appreciate the authenticity of his cooking. He is also aware that New York City has enough suppliers of food with the level he would demand for. His creative cooking is perfect for the market in New York City since he combines different culinary styles but keeps the fundamental characteristics of each style that maximizes the excellence of each ingredient.

Azuma Foods, the seafood ingredient supplier, takes care of major parts of the quality of ingredient. Among their large varieties of seafood ingredients and processed seafood products, Mr. Shinoki picked two unconventional items, squid beshi and cod's organ. Mr. Shinoki's theory that connects Japanese and Italian cooking methods makes these two not-particularly-appetizing seafood items into indiscoverable art piece of luxurious modern Japanese dishes.

Even if he takes Italian and French cooking methods, Mr. Shinoki keeps



Squid beshi (beshi with Italian sauce) and cod's organ (cod's liver) are one of the unique products, squid beshi. Mr. Shinoki makes them in beshi (Italian deep fry) and serves with full of Italian and Japanese flavors. It is served in a reasonable stock on the one-of-a-kind pottery art piece.



*Azuma Foods' black cod and organ (one of Japanese delicacies). Under **CHANTO** Restaurant's top cooking method, it becomes a fabulous entrée served with seasonal vegetables prepared in Italian and French styles.*

very Japanese ingredients such as pickled black cod, black sesame, abo (Japanese basil) and sea urchin. Among the top quality of varieties of styles, **Azuma Foods'** top-of-the-line seafood products produces the highest Japanese flavor and the ingredient's original taste.

Mr. Shinoki is very aware of how to apply the best part of two different cooking styles. "Japanese and Italian styles both have a very similar method – maximizing the original flavor of each ingredient. That is why the two styles go together very well." In order to accomplish the highest level of this modern cooking, the ingredient quality is the key. Once **Azuma Foods'** product is brought into Mr. Shinoki's kitchen, his sophisticated cooking technique and unlimited creativity match the fresh flavor and high quality of **Azuma Foods'** products. **Azuma Foods'** carefully supports the highest quality of food and attracts chefs in the highest level in all styles of cooking. As a result, New York remains the greatest gourmet city in the world.



Not only Japanese, Mr. Shinoki has techniques in Italian, Chinese and French styles. He focuses on the seasonal ingredients and picks the best matching style. Even for **Azuma Foods'** products that are usually used for Japanese dishes, he applies better taste and French style cutting and uses dressing to decorate the plate.

CHANTO Restaurant is located at 133 7th Avenue South (between West 10th Street and Charles Street). Phone: 212-463-8686.



Expand your cooking and presentation horizon!
To learn more about Azuma, visit this information website:
azumafoods.com, or call this friendly sales representative
in the nearest office at (201) 532-1712.

Azuma Foods International Inc., USA
21 Howe II Parkway #10, San Francisco, CA 94065

Cook Japanese Dishes at home

—Much easier than you think

The Japanese Adapted Worcester Sauce for their Favorite Dishes

Worcester sauce is a ripened fruit or vegetable, juiced or puréed and adjusted by adding salt, sugar, vinegar, and spice according to taste. There are varying consistencies used in a range of Japanese comfort foods. For example, thick sauce is served with *tonkatsu* (pork cutlets), medium thick sauce with *okonomiyaki* ("anything you like" pancakes) and so on.

The original Worcestershire sauce in England includes anchovy, tamarind (a tropical fruit), shallots, doves, and garlic. The Japanese adaptation—simply called Worcester sauce—mixes puree or juice with sac, chinasee, vinegar, salt, spices, starch, and caramel sauce. This most popular of sauces is dark brown or black in color, and, sweet, salty, and sour to the taste.

Bottled Sauces for Comfort Cooking

Sauces are an essential aspect of "comfort food" cooking in Japan and vary in consistency, concentration and flavor. The most popular is Worcester sauce, a Japanese adaptation of the Indian-influenced English Worcestershire sauce. Other sauces—thick to less thick in consistency—include *tonkatsu* sauce, *cham*, *teriyaki*, *yakibobu*, and *okonomiyaki*. Worcester sauce—called "sauce" in

Japanese, is made using various vegetables, fruits and spices in addition to vinegar, salt, and sugar. Teriyaki sauce is a simple concoction of soy sauce, mirin, and sugar. Okonomi sauce is quite similar to Worcester sauce. Adding some ketchup and soy sauce makes yakibobu sauce. Of course, you'll find a variety of sauces at any Japanese supermarket.

Go Shopping! Find Your Sauce

As I entered the maze of imported goods at Mitsuwari Supermarket (565 River Road, Edgewater, NJ, 201-941-9113) across the Hudson River, I found that all the products were ordered to perfection on the shelves. Go to any aisle and you'll find a great variety of products well stocked. Most are commercial names but it's common to find some rare and authentic regional imports. I wanted to stock up on some sauces for my kitchen, so I headed over to the sauce aisle next to the one with condiments like soy sauce and vinegar. It's not hard to miss the sauces as hundreds of bottles in different shades of brown are arranged by type and brand name. You'll find Otafuku and Bulldog brands, which pretty much are the staples on the shelves. Bulldog Worcestershire sauce is the most popular and costs \$4.99 for 10.1 FL Oz. Otafuku makes a basic Okonomi sauce, packaged in a soft plastic tube-like bottle (such like Knupper Mayonnaise) that costs about \$3.99 for 17.2 FL Oz.



photos by Shigeo Nakamura

Knocking Around

Find a Yakibobu

A delicious-looking bottle of Yakibobu Sauce is a great addition to any kitchen. It's a simple recipe and worth of cooking. Yakibobu Sauce is a simple recipe and worth of cooking. Yakibobu Sauce is a simple recipe and worth of cooking. Yakibobu Sauce is a simple recipe and worth of cooking.

Boiled Eggs with Worcester Sauce

INGREDIENTS

1 Boiled eggs - 4 1/2 Worcester sauce - 1 Cup 1/2 Vinegar - 1 Cup

*The Worcester sauce and vinegar should be the same amount.

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Pickle the boiled eggs with Worcester sauce and vinegar for the night. Occasionally move the eggs around.
2. The eggs can be decorated in salad.



KUSHIAGE Vegetables, cheese & meat fried in skewers

INGREDIENTS

1 Green asparagus, eggplant, pumpkin, cheese, sausage, and mushrooms
Coating 1/2 Flour 1/2 Egg 1 1/2 Water 1/2 E 1/2 Bread crumbs - 1 C
1/2 Black sauce 1/2 soy sauce

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Cut the vegetables and cheese into bite size pieces.
2. Make the coating.
3. Cook the ingredients through the skewers.
4. Coat with bread crumbs and fry.
5. Eat them with the sauce.



photos by Shigeo Nakamura



Grocery & Sake Guide

Shopping is a lot of fun when you have the right information.

GROCERY

Japanese	JMS Mart 1	
101 W. 10th St. (at 10th St.)	Japanese	
101 W. 10th St.		
MEM 3 Way & 10th		
101 W. 10th St. (at 10th St.)	Japanese	
101 W. 10th St.		
GS Japanese Deli		
101 W. 10th St. (at 10th St.)	Japanese	
101 W. 10th St.		
Katana & Co. Inc.		
101 W. 10th St. (at 10th St.)	Japanese	
101 W. 10th St.		
Yagata		
101 W. 10th St. (at 10th St.)	Japanese	
101 W. 10th St.		
Han-Ai Room		
101 W. 10th St. (at 10th St.)	Japanese	
101 W. 10th St.		
Worship		
101 W. 10th St. (at 10th St.)	Japanese	
101 W. 10th St.		
CHIZ NIKUN		
101 W. 10th St. (at 10th St.)	Japanese	
101 W. 10th St.		
JMS Mart 2		
101 W. 10th St. (at 10th St.)	Japanese	
101 W. 10th St.		
JMS Mart 3		
101 W. 10th St. (at 10th St.)	Japanese	
101 W. 10th St.		
MEM 3, W. 10th		
101 W. 10th St. (at 10th St.)	Japanese	
101 W. 10th St.		
Sunrise Mart		
101 W. 10th St. (at 10th St.)	Japanese	
101 W. 10th St.		
Post-Buyer Mart		
101 W. 10th St. (at 10th St.)	Japanese	
101 W. 10th St.		
Sunrise Mart, SoHo		
101 W. 10th St. (at 10th St.)	Japanese	
101 W. 10th St.		
Japan Mart		
101 W. 10th St. (at 10th St.)	Japanese	
101 W. 10th St.		
Japan Mart		
101 W. 10th St. (at 10th St.)	Japanese	
101 W. 10th St.		
Family Market		
101 W. 10th St. (at 10th St.)	Japanese	
101 W. 10th St.		
Sakura-ya		
101 W. 10th St. (at 10th St.)	Japanese	
101 W. 10th St.		

Asian Market		
101 W. 10th St. (at 10th St.)	Chinese	
101 W. 10th St.		
DASH		
101 W. 10th St. (at 10th St.)	Japanese	
101 W. 10th St.		
BB Seafood		
101 W. 10th St. (at 10th St.)	Japanese	
101 W. 10th St.		
Fuji Mart Corp. Seafood		
101 W. 10th St. (at 10th St.)	Japanese	
101 W. 10th St.		
Kan San Foods LLC		
101 W. 10th St. (at 10th St.)	Japanese	
101 W. 10th St.		
Maido-ya		
101 W. 10th St. (at 10th St.)	Japanese	
101 W. 10th St.		
Endo-ya		
101 W. 10th St. (at 10th St.)	Japanese	
101 W. 10th St.		
Maru Japanese Foods		
101 W. 10th St. (at 10th St.)	Japanese	
101 W. 10th St.		
Shin Nippon-ya		
101 W. 10th St. (at 10th St.)	Japanese	
101 W. 10th St.		
Toyoko Foods		
101 W. 10th St. (at 10th St.)	Japanese	
101 W. 10th St.		
Family Market NJ		
101 W. 10th St. (at 10th St.)	Japanese	
101 W. 10th St.		
Meiwa Marketplaces		
101 W. 10th St. (at 10th St.)	Japanese	
101 W. 10th St.		
Budgewood Fisheries		
101 W. 10th St. (at 10th St.)	Japanese	
101 W. 10th St.		
Fuji Mart		
101 W. 10th St. (at 10th St.)	Japanese	
101 W. 10th St.		
J-Mart		
101 W. 10th St. (at 10th St.)	Japanese	
101 W. 10th St.		
SAKE		
Eastern Wines & Liquors		
101 W. 10th St. (at 10th St.)	Japanese	
101 W. 10th St.		
Manry's Wine		
101 W. 10th St. (at 10th St.)	Japanese	
101 W. 10th St.		
Garnet Wine		
101 W. 10th St. (at 10th St.)	Japanese	
101 W. 10th St.		
Wister Wright		
101 W. 10th St. (at 10th St.)	Japanese	
101 W. 10th St.		
Anticorridor Wine		
101 W. 10th St. (at 10th St.)	Japanese	
101 W. 10th St.		
Lambert's wine		
101 W. 10th St. (at 10th St.)	Japanese	
101 W. 10th St.		

Asian Wine		
101 W. 10th St. (at 10th St.)	Chinese	
101 W. 10th St.		
LEED WINES		
101 W. 10th St. (at 10th St.)	Japanese	
101 W. 10th St.		
Asian Wine		
101 W. 10th St. (at 10th St.)	Japanese	
101 W. 10th St.		
Wister Wright		
101 W. 10th St. (at 10th St.)	Japanese	
101 W. 10th St.		
East Village Wine		
101 W. 10th St. (at 10th St.)	Japanese	
101 W. 10th St.		
Granville Wine		
101 W. 10th St. (at 10th St.)	Japanese	
101 W. 10th St.		
New York Wine Co.		
101 W. 10th St. (at 10th St.)	Japanese	
101 W. 10th St.		
September Wines LLC		
101 W. 10th St. (at 10th St.)	Japanese	
101 W. 10th St.		
Heights Chateau		
101 W. 10th St. (at 10th St.)	Japanese	
101 W. 10th St.		
Smith and Wine		
101 W. 10th St. (at 10th St.)	Japanese	
101 W. 10th St.		

SAKE		
101 W. 10th St. (at 10th St.)	Chinese	
101 W. 10th St.		
Deluxe Super Market		
101 W. 10th St. (at 10th St.)	Japanese	
101 W. 10th St.		
JAPANESE WHOLESALE		
101 W. 10th St. (at 10th St.)	Japanese	
101 W. 10th St.		
Control Foods U.S.A., Ltd.		
101 W. 10th St. (at 10th St.)	Japanese	
101 W. 10th St.		
Daiei Trading Co., Inc.		
101 W. 10th St. (at 10th St.)	Japanese	
101 W. 10th St.		
JAPANESE IMPORT		
101 W. 10th St. (at 10th St.)	Japanese	
101 W. 10th St.		
My Mutual Trading Inc.		
101 W. 10th St. (at 10th St.)	Japanese	
101 W. 10th St.		
Wine of Japan Import		
101 W. 10th St. (at 10th St.)	Japanese	
101 W. 10th St.		

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CHOPSTICKS
NEW YORK

Morinaga Tofu Puree amazes 40-year veteran chef

Three months ago, Mr. Suda, the executive chef at **Matsushima Restaurant**, first encountered Morinaga Tofu Puree and it was love at first sight. He was inspired by the tofu to scale new creative heights and here he talks about his love affair with this innovative ingredient.

The super fine texture allows easy handling.

"I thought it was just a flop of soy milk when I first opened the package," Mr. Suda says, laughing. But the truth is that he loves "the flop of soy milk." Morinaga Tofu Puree is thicker than soy milk but not quite as firm as silken tofu. It actually separates, with the heavier part staying on the bottom, but after mixing it for just a few seconds it becomes creamy and smooth giving you a mousse-like texture with very little effort, a result you can never achieve by blending or straining ordinary tofu. Mr. Suda especially likes the texture. "It is so fine that I immediately thought it was a nano-technology tofu. It's amazingly silky." This delicacy of texture makes it perfectly suited for a fine dining establishment like Matsushima.

Take Matsushima's popular dish, "Miso-marinated Daikon Radish Steak." Mr. Suda uses Morinaga Tofu Puree to thicken its sauce. He shows us the basic sauce, which looks extremely thick. He explains, "When we serve hot foods, the sauce must be hot as well. In general, the sauces tend to be thinner, so we like to have a certain degree of thickness to the sauce." Since Morinaga Tofu Puree separates out into its heavier and lighter parts, chefs can easily control its thickness.



After stirring a few seconds you'll get a creamy texture.

It draws out the flavors of other ingredients.

Flavor is another factor that attracts Mr. Suda. He actually loves the "flavorless-ness" of Morinaga Tofu Puree. "It combines with other ingredients easily, making them milder, and drawing out their flavor. But what I like most is that it never overpowers the dish. Rather, it complements it." Morinaga Tofu Puree boasts of a very slight, almost undetectable, "soy aftertaste," and so it becomes a perfect "glue" for ingredients under the magic hands of an experienced chef.

Variation is limitless.

Amazed by the new product, Mr. Suda repeatedly emphasizes, "Its variation is limitless. It

is easy to create at least 2000 kinds of tofu dishes from the puree." He has a lot of experience making "Tofu Kaseki," the traditional ten necessary dishes made from tofu products. Morinaga Tofu Puree will definitely increase the length of his tofu menu.

Morinaga Tofu Puree is an innovative product with a few key attributes. It is made from organic soybeans grown in the US. Like Mori Nu Tofu, it contains no preservatives and comes up in a sterile package which allows you to keep it at room temperature.



Morinaga Nutritional Products, Inc.
2441 W. 205th St. Suite C100
Torrance, CA 90501
TEL: 310-787-0808
www.morinaga.com



With his 40-year career in Japanese cuisine, Osamu Suda, the executive chef of Matsushima Restaurant, has honed this authentic Japanese restaurant for 10 years.

Matsushima Restaurant
585 River Rd., Edgewater NJ 07020
TEL: 201-940-9426

① Morinaga Tofu Puree is seamlessly hidden in the sauce of this dish. The creamy texture of fried seafood & roasted carrot potatoes creates harmony in your mouth. ② Brower-browned steaks perfectly meld on these delicate roasted vegetables. Its creamy texture enhances the elegance of this dish. ③ Even a strongly flavored sauce can include Morinaga Tofu Puree. In this case, it helps give texture.

OCTOBER 1ST: SAKE DAY

Ever since the Sake Taxation Law was implemented in 1955, sake has been produced from October to September and October 1st is designated "Sake Day" to mark the anniversary year in sake production. Behind a premium sake, there's a story and here you'll discover it. The first story introduces various sake and shochu that are available in NYC. From North to South, it features the history and philosophy of each brewery as well as characteristics, flavoring styles and purang styles of the sake that it produces. And last but not least, we also present variety of whiskey Yamazaki the pride of Japan.

ALCOHOL Alcohol by volume (ABV), which is used to indicate the strength of a beverage.

SMV Sake meter value. If the number is positive, it means drier.

If the number is negative, the drink is sweeter.

ACIDITY If the number is high, it

high-molality (sour) and low-molality (smooth). It is also related with acidity.



Stores and restaurants listed as "where to buy" and
"Restaurant serving" are as of 09/10/2007
Please drink responsibly.

Nanbu-Bijin Tokubetsu Junmai



ALCOHOL: 15.5% ★ SMV: 45 ★ ACRMFY: 1.5

Nacha Rice is bred to bring out the best flavor and aroma in the locally harvested Griststone rice that is polished to 25% of its original size. The result and smooth flavor is reminiscent of a spread milo, and its rich oily and fatty aroma is followed by a light aftertaste.

It is exceptional on the tongue but subtle, so it pairs perfectly with Japanese food, especially with oysters, sushi and sashimi. Nambu Light Brewery started exporting their products to the U.S. 33 years ago, and in New York, there are a lot of restaurants where you can taste different kinds of sake from Nambu.

January 16, October we will
holding many wine tasting events in
NYC. So, please come join us
and enjoy our sale." Mr. Kap.
We appreciate everyone's



Mr. Gordon Kay
(President)

Return to Very Native-Style Shrimp

Received 2005-09-05; revised 2005-11-05; accepted 2005-11-10.

Phong Cảnh Khu Vực Hồ Chí Minh
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Ginrei Gassan Junmai Ginjo Gassan no Yuki


$$ACCORD = 25.2\% \times \text{SMB} + 1 + ACOUNT = 1.2$$

Gassan Brewery is located in Yamagata prefecture where winter is harsh with heavy snow and cold temperature but very advantageous for sake production. The two main ingredients Dewa Senzan rice and Gassan Natural Water are both from this region. Gassan no Yaku is

translated "the snow of life Ginsen" and the persistence snow of Mt. Ginsen is a signature of Yamagata prefecture. Ginsen, swelling snow steps into the ground, and after 100 to 150 years, it springs out as Ginsen Natural Water which is one of the top 100 natural waters in Japan. This sake is sophisticated and well received with elegant aroma. This is with leopards' foot, masked drinks or even with a maskwork. "Enjoy the pure taste captured during a harsh winter of Yamagata's Mt. Ginsen."



Edo Museum (Hemlock)
Edo Museum (Hemlock)

Minerals, How Many

Differences in Key Elements are Vital

Source: *Wahlkreis* (electoral district) 1990. The data were obtained from the *Wahlkreis* (electoral district) 1990.

Restaurants serving Kosher on Yiddish
See Specialties: Shabbat-Yiddish in: Egypt, Greece
Hungary, Lebanon-Palestine



SNOW MOUNTAIN
PURE WATER



はつ高杉 地味な歌 高杉の雪
Gorō Gassan Junmai Gōjo
Gassan no Yuki
"Snowscape of Mt. Gassan"

The picturesque scene of Mt. Gassan is a signature of Yamaguchi prefecture. Gassan's melting snow seeps into the ground, and rises 300 to 400 years in a spring out at Gassan Natural Water, one of the top 100 natural water in Japan. This spring water makes Yamaguchi prefecture most conducive for tea and sake production. Enjoy the sophisticated and well rounded flavor with elegant season to Gassan on Sake.

Casson Baker Brewery Co., Ltd.

Traditio Name: Cassius and Vibia (poem) by J. M. W. Turner
Digitally Inscribed by: Wang of Japan Company, Inc.
© 2000 by Wang of Japan Company, Inc.

Hakuro Suishu Junmai Ginjo



ALCOHOL: 16.9% • SAKI +1 • ACIDITY: 1.1

Takamizawa Brewery picks itself as using only local ingredients. Hakuro Suishu is brewed from 100% Yamagata rice and Dewamatsu Natural Water pumped from a 196 ft well on site. Dewamatsu Natural Water is a mineral-rich alkaline water that contains few or no minerals. It contributes to the smooth and sweet flavor of sake, but requires additional care to balance its flavor. Takamizawa Brewery has utilized both traditional and modern technologies to create the perfectly balanced sake. The alluring melting quality with bursting aroma, followed by the refreshing aftertaste, will make you come back for more. "Sake is full of nuances. If you don't like taking dietary supplements, we recommend our delicious sake to accompany your dinner".



Mr. Atsuo, President
Takamizawa Brewery

Mr. Atsuo, President

Where to Buy Hakuro Sake

Luxury Wine & Spirits

Restaurants serving Hakuro Sake

Sakagami Mugi Shiki, Sakagami, Tokyo, Japan



Maihime Junmai Ginjo



ALCOHOL: 15.6% • SAKI +1 • ACIDITY: 1.5

Maihime Junmai Ginjo is characterized by an aroma of flowing rhinestones and smooth flavor followed by a soft and crisp aftertaste. Created with the groundwater from the mountains of Kyushu and locally produced Miyazaki rice milled down to 50% of its original size, Maihime is best served cold or slightly warmed and pairs beautifully with cold flavored dishes such as squid tempers, citrus sash and seafood salad. The name Maihime (Dancing Princess) comes from a newspaper column series, Maihime, in 1950 by renowned novelist Yamanashi Kawabata and Maihime Junmai Ginjo has been their bestseller ever since. "Cold climate of Suwa City makes it conducive for sake production, and there are 5 sake



Mr. Jiro Tachibana
President

breweries in the area. Please come visit us if you are near," said Mr. Tachibana.

Restaurants serving Maihime

K Saki Japanese Fusion, Sakagami



Tasting is Believing

Japan National New Sake Appraisal, Gold Medal, 8th consecutive year. Won the Top Prize of continuous winning years for the last decades (1980-2008).

International Wine Challenge 5 medals were awarded. Takamizawa Junmai (Silver), Dewamatsu Natural Water (Silver), Dewamatsu Natural Water (Silver), Dewamatsu Natural Water (Silver), Dewamatsu Natural Water (Silver).



Take no Tazawa Junmai
"Sakura Sake"

Hakuro Suishu Junmai Ginjo
"Winter Wine"

Takamizawa Junmai
"Koto Sake"

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Garyubai Junmai Ginjo Muroka Genshu



ALCOHOL 16.5% * SMZ + I * ACIDITY 2.3

GARYUJI is produced with approximately 600kg of Yamada-no-uchi rice from Hyogo Prefecture, polished down 55% to its core, and the aromatic pure grainosterols from the Okusai Pure Sesame Brewery, which has been producing quality sake since 1816, create GARYUJI to challenge their standard of as compromise and no shortcuts. GARYUJI was awarded Grand Gold Prize from over 300 entries in International Sake Challenge 2007. It is a high impact sake bearing within the aroma of sweet pea flowers and golden apples. Its flavors, without the acidic bite, are wonderful with many food seafood dishes such as scallops or seafood salad. Serve chilled or at room temperature.

"We are proud to present our exclusive quality sake from"



Mr. Hiroshi Inaoka
President



Mr. BARNETT in Spanish
(Interposed).

the other side of the Pacific Ocean," Mr. Suzuki, President

Where to Buy Computers

Agnes Munnell & Gordon

Kennzeichen: schwarz/grünlich
Hier-Motiv: Cote d'Ivoire 03. Februar 1978



Born: Muroka Nama Genshu (Jarvis: Daisiro)



ALCOMOL: 17.8% * SMPS: +4 * ACTIVITY: 1.4

The production of Bore begins with a careful preparation of its ingredients. A special strain of *Yarrowia lipolytica* rice known as the highest grade rice, is polished until only 50% of the original remains. It is then fermented with the groundwater of the Hakata pears, pumped from a 600 ft well, and *Kanokishobu* (Mouster's home-grown yeast mix). Aged in a regulated 55°C environment over 18 months before shipping, Bore possesses a fresh, full-bodied flavor with a rich aroma of fresh grapefruit. It is a versatile side, serving sparkling cold, straight up, on the rocks, or with finely sliced citrus fruits. "It's wonderful with delicate dishes such as carpaccio and seafood, or even with heavier creamy dishes. "We used the fresh and flavorful sake in



Adj. Associate/Visiting
President

Born "Mr. Kato, Life Insurance President

Where is my Best Friend? Name: _____
 I received this from _____

Bestuurwinstvering: Bestuurskosten/Nieuw Genuut
Snelgids: Hulp - Hulp - Tekst Snelgids - Tekst Snelgids
Kubus: Winst, Snelgids, Snelgids, Snelgids





GARYUBAI

ARE YOU A GARYUB?
 Garyuba® means a dragon hidden in the mountains waiting for the easy going, Drunken, honest or the god of sake, lazily fly in excitement, and Garyuba is used as a metaphor for a great being waiting for his time to show. In a temple near Mount Fuji, there is a place you cannot Garyuba which according to local men is planted by the immortal being, Kusanagi no Tsurugi when he was a boy. This sake was named Drunken or Garyuba not just within the temple but also for the fellow Garyuba.

DRAGON - THE BEST BEER DRINKING IN INTERNATIONAL SAKURA FESTIVAL

Source: *Shimizu* 970 37 Nishikubo Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo 163-8601, Japan / www.garyuba.com

Imported: Distributed by Wine of Japan Import, Inc. 375-433-4333 / www.wjimport.com

Garyuba®
 Premium Sake Beer

A large, dark mountain peak dominates the background, with a bright sun or moon rising behind it, creating a lens flare effect. In the center of the mountain, the Japanese character '梵' (Hannya) is written in white, with the word 'Born' underneath it in a stylized font. Below the mountain, seven bottles of Born Japanese Sake are displayed in a row. From left to right, the bottles are: a small blue bottle, a small white bottle with a red label, a medium blue bottle, a medium white bottle, a medium white bottle with a yellow label, a medium white bottle with a black label, and a medium white bottle with a yellow label. Below the bottles, the text 'Born Japanese Sake' is written in a stylized font. At the bottom of the advertisement, the text 'Imported & Bottled by New York Wine Imports, Inc. 201-633-6362 / www.nywi.com' is displayed.

梵
 Born

Born Japanese Sake

Imported & Bottled by New York Wine Imports, Inc.
 201-633-6362 / www.nywi.com

Horin Junmai Daiginjo



ALCOHOL: 16% * SMV: +2 * ACIDITY: 1.5

Established in 1637, Gekkeikan has aspired to create the best sake in the world with the motto: Quality, Creativity and Humanity. The U.S. production began in 1989, but the entire production of Horin takes place in the Kyoto headquarters. Carefully selected premium rice is polished to 50% of its original size and slow-brewed at low temperatures with spring water from the Fushimi region. Horin was awarded the Grand Gold Medal from Monde Selection in 2006 and 2007, for its refreshingly fruity aroma and mild flavor. Serve it chilled at about 50°F and pair it with sashimi using Ponzu sauce instead of Soy sauce. *Gekkeikan has been awarded Gold Standard from Japan National Sake Appraisal for 25 years in a row. Enjoy the taste created with 370 years of mastery! Mr. Saura, Gekkeikan Sake USA, President



Mr. Saura/Gekkeikan (President)



Where to Buy Horin

Shops: Mitsuwa, Uchiyama, Niji & Soma, L'Espresso Wine & Food

Restaurants serving Horin

Ikoma, Toco, No. 9, Kiyomasa, Soba Satta

GEKKEIKAN SAKE

HORIN

Ultra Premium Junmai Daiginjo

2006 & 2007
A.O.C. GOLD MEDAL
JAPAN NATIONAL SAKE APPRAISAL
JURY OF QUALITY

The ultimate achievement of the sake brewer's art, and only a limited number of bottles are created each year. A delicate, full-flavored daiginjo sake with a medley of fruity aromas, Horin has a subtle taste and a clean, refined finish. Enjoy Horin chilled.

Drink Responsibly
Gekkeikan Sake USA, Ltd. Kyoto, Japan

Japon Sparkling Sake



ALCOHOL: 8.5% * SMV: -60 * ACIDITY: 5.8

Located near the upstream of Kamori River, West of Japan's ancient capital Kyoto, Tanzan Brewery has been making finest sake for over a century. Their 5th generation brew master is an innovative winemaker. A female brew master is still a rare phenomenon in the traditional world of sake, and she brought fresh visions and created new sake to meet women and young people's tastes. JAPON is produced with the groundwater from Mt. Arara and Ginkyo-katsunopoku rice which Tanzan Brewery cultivates its rice, to control its quality. It is a light and smooth sparkling sake reminiscent of a Champagne, and makes an excellent aperitif. Serve chilled below 40°F with a splash of fresh lemon or lime. *Enjoy the taste of sake created only with Kyoto's local ingredients! Mr. Hasegawa, Brew Master



Mr. Hasegawa/Tanzan (Brew Master)



Where to Buy Japon

Anyama, Barona, Rigo, West Layer, Soma, Wines

Restaurants serving Japon

Tsukuba, Soba Satta, Mitsu Satta

TANZAN SHUZO
~SAKE FROM KYOTO~

京丹山

JAPON sparkling sake

TANZAN SHUZO
Japon sparkling

京都の地酒
丹山

DRINK RESPONSIBLY DISTRIBUTED BY JFC

Hana Awaka Sparkling Sake



ALCOHOL 7% ★ SMV -60 ★ ACIDITY 2.9

Celebrating its 28th year in the U.S. Ozaki was the first major sake brewery to begin production outside of Japan. Available from this September Ozaki's new product Hana Awaka (Sparkling Flower) is a refreshing sparkling sake launched to the fall of 2002 upon an extensive market research with women in their twenties and thirties. Created by Japanese women who love fresh ideas and delicious foods, it brings your taste buds alive with bursting sweetness and tangy bubbles. With its floral aroma and light bubbles as a 7% low alcohol sake, Hana Awaka is a new refreshing alternative to regular sake. Best served chilled for maximum flavor. "Hana Awaka is a light sake that is very easy to drink. Try it with light meals or brunch," Mr. Tanaka,

Eastern Region Manager



Mr. Tanaka
(Eastern Region Manager)



Where to Buy Hana Awaka
Midwest: D'Arco's Inc., San Francisco
Midwest: D'Arco's Inc., San Francisco

Midwest: D'Arco's Inc., San Francisco
Midwest: D'Arco's Inc., San Francisco

Chiyomusubi Tokubetsu Junmai



ALCOHOL 15.5% ★ SMV +3 ★ ACIDITY 1.5

In Tohoku Prefecture, south the Sea of Japan, Chiyomusubi Brewery has been producing sake for 146 years. The two tons of water used in their sake production is brought from the Chigasaki mountains—about 16 miles from the brewery. Another ingredient is locally grown rice, Gokuyamanagoshi, milled down to 55% of its original size to the core. Unfiltered sake is bottled before undergoing the pasteurization process for pure and stable flavor, as well as to refine its elegant, fruity aroma. Its rich texture lends a unique appeal to food dishes such as steamed scallops and shellfish sashimi. "Sake is rich in Amino Acids and other valuable nutrients. Normally seasoned Japanese dishes together with sake in good spirit will enhance your health," Mr. Okamoto,



Mr. Okamoto
(Chiyomusubi Brewery)



Where to Buy Chiyomusubi
Midwest: D'Arco's Inc., San Francisco
Midwest: D'Arco's Inc., San Francisco

Midwest: D'Arco's Inc., San Francisco
Midwest: D'Arco's Inc., San Francisco

Hana Awaka 花泡香

Brighten your day with "Sparkling Flower" Sake



Popular in JAPAN!

Ozaki Hana Awaka (Sparkling Flower) is a refreshing sparkling sake. Created by Japanese women who love fresh ideas and delicious foods, it brings alive your taste buds with bursting sweetness and tangy bubbles. It makes a perfect drink for brunch or dessert. Best served chilled for maximum flavor.

(Sake Store Sales: 40% Alcohol 7%, Acidity 2.9)

Product of Japan

Imported / Distributed by: JFC International, Inc.
Tel: 718-454-6625 / 6738 www.ozaki-usa.com
Email: ozaki@ozaki-usa.com

Superior Technique and Philosophy of Izumo School Brew Master



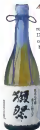
Chiyomusubi Brewery Co. Ltd.

131 Tohoku-machi, Sakuragawa-cho, Izumi, Japan
TEL: 067-42-1111 www.chiyomusubi.co.jp

Distributed by: JFC International, Inc.



Dassai 23 (Nawan Sanba) Junmai Daiginjo



ALCOHOL: 15-16% • SMO: +3 • ACIDITY: 1.1

Akaha Brewery produces sake all year round to deliver the freshest, most robust sake possible. The sake rice for Dassai 23 is milled down until only 25% of its original remains. This is the highest degree of milling in the world, and you can taste the difference in its delicate flavor and balanced acidity. It has a superb fruity aroma with natural sweetness of honeydew, followed by a finish characterized as fresh and vibrant. Dassai 23 is meant to be enjoyed to enjoy the flavor and the aroma. It pairs beautifully with white fish sashimi. Best served chilled around 40° to 50°F. "Dassai 23 is exported to 13 different countries, and we strive to create sake that will delight all kinds of palates," said Mr. Sotomura, Vice President.



Mr. Sotomura
Vice President



Where to Buy Dassai 23

Akaha Wine London Wine & Spirits

Restaurants serving Dassai 23

Santa Fe: Santa Fe Grill, Santa Fe House
South of France: Sangan Sushiko, Sushiko Mago, Dr. Sushiko in Austin, Champagne

Jizake Tenzan Junmai Genshu



ALCOHOL: 18% • SMO: +2 • ACIDITY: 1.8

Japanese people believe that the presence of fertility over a river signifies pure water. Tenzan Brewery is located in Ogi City, it is known for the clear, pure water that comes from the mountains of Tenzan and is among the most popular places for hot-springs in Japan. Established in 1875, Tenzan Brewery has been designated a national cultural heritage site and a Saga prefecture's historical monument. The water from Tenzan mountains with locally harvested rice, milled to 60% of its original size, produces Jizake Tenzan. It has a full-bodied flavor balanced to perfection with pleasant tanginess. Serve room temperature, slightly chilled, or on the rocks.



Mr. Jiro Iida
Jizake Master



"Jizake Tenzan is brewed to bring out the best. Enjoy it with sashimi or meat," Mr. Jiro Iida Master.

Where to Buy Jizake Tenzan

Sausalito: Ace Wine & Spirits Co., Chelsea Wine Vault

Restaurants serving Jizake Tenzan

San Francisco: Blue Ribbon, Sushiko, Sushiko Mago, Sushiko Mago, Sushiko Mago, Sushiko Mago

Announcement

Akaha Brewery produces sake all year round to deliver the freshest, most robust sake that will delight all kinds of palates.

Beginning next month, Akaha Brewery will be featured in Chopsticks NY to introduce Dasso enthusiasts and restaurants where you can enjoy Dasso.

Renowned Water from Blessed Nature "TENZAN"

天山



JIZAKE TENZAN
Junmai Genshu

天香山の純米

TENZAN Sake Brewery
1530 Jackson, Oyster Bay, Oyster Bay
Phone: 516-460-1234 / www.tenzan.co.jp

Imported and Bottled by The Wine & Spirits Importers, Inc.
200 West Broadway, New York, NY 10014
www.the-wine-spirits.com / 1-800-451-1234

天香山の純米
天香山の純米

Kappa no Sasoi-mizu (Authentic Ima Shochu)



ABV 20% ★ SWEET POTATO

Kappa no Sasoi-mizu is produced from locally grown sweet potatoes and rice malt fermented in great earthen pots with a single pot distillation under reduced pressure. This method has been Kyoya Distillery's tradition since 1834. The winner of 2006 Nikkei Selection Grand Gold Medal and numerous other competitions, Kappa no Sasoi-mizu has distinct aromas of apricot, pear and green grass, with the flavor of citrus fruit, orange peel and lemons. The aroma and taste are not overwhelming, so that it goes pleasantly any food. Best served chilled, straight up or on the rocks. "We take pride in our tradition and our high quality shochu. Unlike other distilled liquors, high quality shochu is consumed much like wine. Enjoy our shochu as you



Mr. Satoru Yamate
(President)

new small companion," Mr. Yamate

Where to buy Kappa no Sasoi-mizu
 Unions Wine & Spirits, Midwest USA; Stage
 Restaurants serving Kappa no Sasoi-mizu
 Unions Wine & Spirits, Tokyo, Osaka, Kyoto
 San-Den, Sapporo, Kanazawa, Hiroshima, etc.



A Shochu Moment with Kyoya

• Miyazaki's Oldest Shochu Distillery •
 vol.1 Kappa no Sasoi-mizu @ "Umi no Ie"

Have you tried an award made with a high breath? One of New York's "Best Shochu Bars," Umi no Ie, is a place where the warming dishes using top-notch ingredients can be enjoyed for suitable prices. The all-star home little joint is run by a fluffy American-like day manager Mike, Ogas and Matsuo Tanaka, who is trained from Goro Island. Their specialties, such as Goto Island and Goshima's Tengu go on, are made with apple doris (aging 10% shochu) flows directly from Aizumi's home. It's a real time for both - to have this early, top quality shochu can use it, but with Aizumi and Mike, anything is possible!

So what are they drinking? The enchanting "Kappa" (no sweet potato) shochu, so elegant with green full aroma that perfectly complement the real deal, like the fish fresh smelt. *Mike Tajima*

Information

Enjoy "Kappa" Shochu at Umi no Ie
 in East Village
 48 E 3rd Street, down 1st & 2nd ave
 646 854 1122

Distributed by JFC International, Inc. 770 488 4000

Beniotoke (Sesame Shochu)



ABV 20% ★ SESAME

Beniotoke Distillery is located at the foot of the Minato mountains where clear soft water, used in shochu, springs out. The core ingredients of Beniotoke shochu are premium wheat, rice and sesame seeds. Beniotoke is a pioneer of sesame and shochu. They conducted extensive research on fermentation with sesame seeds which led to the creation of a natural shochu that contains the essence of sesame seeds. Sesame seeds are cholesterol free, calcium rich, and an excellent source of antioxidants. After being aged for 2 years, the shochu becomes delicate and mild with a hint of sesame aroma, but it doesn't interfere with the flavor of the



Mr. Hiroyuki Hayashi
(President)

real. Serve on the rocks or with tonic water. "Enjoy the taste and the health benefits of sesame seeds in Beniotoke," Mr. Hayashi. Want Product

Where to buy Beniotoke
 Unions
Restaurants serving Beniotoke
 Unions Wine & Spirits, Benetton/Negroni Bar
 Sapporo, Osaka, Kyoto



The fine ingredient produces HEALTHY Shochu



BENIOTOKE



Beniotoke Distillery & Brewer Co., Ltd.
 117 Sumiyama Tama-cho, Fukuoka
 Kurume-shi, Fukuoka 838-1275
 Tel: 094-541-2999 / www.beniotoke.co.jp

Distributed by JFC International
 Tokyo, Japan

Close to the Homeland. CHIYOMUSUBI Sake from Sakaiminato, Tottori.

Along the coast of the Sea of Japan, Sakaiminato, Tottori is the biggest fishing city. This waterfront town is also the home of **CHIYOMUSUBI**, the brewery of the *Chiyomamushi* line of sakes whose philosophy is to stay local. Not only is the brewery deeply involved with the community but it has brewed sake for more than 140 years using local water and rice.

The rice for **CHIYOMUSUBI** sake comes directly from rice farmers in the Western part of Tottori. It's milled inside the brewery, then steamed and cooled by hand. The water used for sake brewing is famed in a local spring that's only a 3 hour round trip from the brewery. The quality of the water is slightly soft, which perfectly matches the *Chiyomamushi* taste.

But regional ingredients aren't the only way Chiyomamushi brewery is involved with Sakaiminato. The brewery looks out over **Mitsuki Shigeru Road**, which attracts a lot of tourists to the city. This 800 meter-long street features close to 120 statues of manga characters created by Mitsuki Shigeru, author of the enormously popular manga, *Gegege no Kitaro*®, almost 50 years ago. Mitsuki Shigeru shares his hometown with **CHIYOMUSUBI**, and the brewery celebrates this hometown hero by using his characters to promote its sake and as a part of its touring exhibition.

Born and rooted in Sakaiminato, **CHIYOMUSUBI** brings a local flavor to New Yorkers.

**Gegege no Kitaro: A manga created by Mitsuki Shigeru. The protagonist, Kitaro, is a boy born into a family of ghosts. His day-to-day adventure in this spooky but comical world spread to Japanese mainstream in the 70s and ultimately Kitaro became so popular that he was featured on TV shows and produced a big budget, low-budget movie in Japan in 2004. The population of Kitaro's ghost world, including "Mabuta Dango (Blood-Fruit Pudding)" "Neko no Oniwa (Cat Maw)" "Shushiko Tsubo (Blood-Drinking King)" are shown in our sake group which is much loved in Japan.*



Established in 1861, the local brewery of Sakaiminato, CHIYOMUSUBI is inseparable from its hometown.



The Chiyomamushi line (from left to right) Chiyomamushi Daigyo, Akasumai, Ryo, Chiyomamushi Tokubetsu Junmai, Gaido, Oni no Shikabura, and Hama no Inari.

Awarded Japan National New Sake Appraisal 7 years in a row National Sake Appraisal in the Hometown region 10 years in a row

Distributed by JFC International, Inc. 718-456-6005



VISIT THE NEWLY RENOVATED BREWERY

Reopened in 2007 after renovation, the new brewery features "Haka, Sakaiminato no Hanazono (May of Sakaiminato Sake)". The drama exhibits the steps to brew sake was all of the towns is played by *Gegege no Kitaro* characters. The brewery also has call "Kaiten", where you can enjoy original sake and snacks as well as events.



- ① Fresh Air (Chiyomamushi Chiyomamushi)
- ② Japanese Sake and Food
- ③ Kaiten (Kaiten)

A Letter from the Kuramoto

vol. 1

by Masahide Kato

(The 17th president of Kotenkyushu Shouten)



BORN: the sake that brings a bright future

Kotenkyushu Shouten, its birth and development

Today, I want to tell you how Kotenkyushu Shouten, BORN's brewery, was established.

1940 was an extremely important year in Japanese history. That was the year when Nansei K, the emperor of the Hirotsu, and one of the main minds behind the Tokugawa regime, was assassinated. Immediately afterwards, Japan started moving towards the Meiji Restoration, which would herald a drastic change in Japanese society. That was also the same year that our brewery

was born. My ancestors, who had been in the exchange business for generations, started brewing sake and named their brewery, "Kotenkyushu Shouten."

It's located in Sakuragi, a part of Fukui prefecture that is full of historical landmarks: the 350-year-old Yoshie Shrine, which commemorates Duke Masachika Matsudaira, Yoshie Nunobiki (the old story), and Bukeiyoku (the samurai house). The area is also rich in natural resources, especially clean spring water from the foot of Shokuyō Mountain.

From Sake to Nationwide and Worldwide

The most important event in the brewery's history happened about 40 years ago when our sake was selected as the official sake for the accession ceremony of the Showa Emperor, the first time a locally brewed sake had ever been singled out for that honor. I believe the reason they selected our sake was that it had been selected as the best in the Hokuriku Area Sake Competition for 4 consecutive years. Since then, our sake has become an essential part of important ceremonies in Japan.

BORN is known and enjoyed not only in Japan but also around the world. In 1998, BORN Hypon received the Grand Prize in the International Sake Festival in Toronto. In 2004, BORN Gin no Tsubasa, was awarded the Grand Prize at



the International Sake Festival in London. To celebrate this victory, we changed the name BORN: Gin no Tsubasa to Nihon no Tsubasa. It is well known that Nihon no Tsubasa was served at the reception dinner for President Bill Clinton. Nowadays, the BORN brand has spread all over the world and it's a registered trademark in more than 30 countries.

Masahide Kato The 17th president of Kotenkyushu Shouten. The brewery produces more than 50 different kinds of sake, including the BORN brand. BORN means "birth" and "awaken" in English. In Japanese, it means "sunrise" and "rebirth." www.born.co.jp



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~Japanese Artisanal Ingredients~



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Japanese Whiskey for Japanese People Takes Steps out into the World.

THE DAWN OF JAPANESE WHISKY

Whiskey came to Japan about 150 years ago at a time when Japanese society was changing. The era of the samurai was about to end and the era of constitutional monarchy was about to begin. Three years after this transition, known as the Meiji Restoration, Japan ended its long isolation and began trading with foreign countries, and Western liquor was one of the first items the Japanese government allowed to be imported.

Also around that time Shogoro Torii, a pharmaceutical wholesaler and the founder of Suntory, started importing western liquor and he later created a brand called **Akadama Port Wine**, based on a Spanish wine which made him a successful merchant. However, he was not satisfied with this success and so he embarked on a new venture which was to become his life's work: making Japanese whiskey for Japanese people. Despite his strong will the Suntory executives opposed to his plan. Nevertheless, Torii persevered and established the first Japanese whiskey distillery in Yamazaki, a suburb of Kyoto, an area so famous for its excellent water that Sen no Rikyu, the legendary tea master, built his pavilion here.

Whiskey requires aging, so naturally, Torii's distillery did nothing but consume huge amounts of barley for years before it was ready to produce any product. A rumor spread among the neighbors, "A monster called 'Usake' lives there. It eats barley."

It was in 1929, 5 years after Yamazaki Distillery was established, that the first Japanese domestic whiskey, **Suntory Shirohada**, was born. Unfortunately, it did not sell as expected because Japanese people at that time did not know how to enjoy whiskey. The distillery kept trying and through trial and error they finally brought **Kakuhia** onto the market in 1937. It became their top-selling brand and its popularity never faded, even 70 years after its birth.

WHISKY PERMEATED IN JAPAN IN THE 70s

In the 70's, as the Japanese economy grew rapidly, people were also starting to enjoy whiskey and so Suntory initiated a unique marketing strategy "Nihonkai-sakana (Open-on Chopsticks)." Traditionally, it was believed that imported liquor such as whiskey was only good with western cuisine. Suntory, however, was confident that the whiskey created and aged in Japanese environs pairs well with Japanese food. With Open-on Chopsticks, Suntory promoted whiskey to any kind of restaurant that offered dishes meant to be

eaten with chopsticks, like **roshi** (sashimi), **robata** (Japanese restaurants), **sake bari**, and **noodle parls**. This strategy was criticized as absurd, but thanks to Suntory's consistent efforts, Japanese people came to enjoy Japanese whiskey and Japanese food together over time.

Torii resigned in 1981, and was succeeded by Keizo Sak. Sak brought single malt whiskey onto the market for the first time in Japan. It's called **Yamazaki**, named after the distillery and it's a selective, long-aged, single malt whiskey which has been distilled in the natural beauty of the Yamazaki area. Nowadays, Yamazaki is considered the most popular single malt whiskey in Japan, and is

MIZUWARI

In Japan, people enjoy whiskey with water. They call it **Mizuwari** style. This is perfect for Japanese people, many of whom lack the enzymes for breaking down alcohol, and it also releases the aroma of the whiskey. Mizuwari style is best suited for drinking while eating. It especially matches delicate foods such as sushi, tempura, and sashimi.

How to make a Mizuwari

- 
- Fill glass with the ice
 - Pour in one measure (about 20-40 ml) of whiskey
 - Stir 12 and a half times slowly
 - Top up the ice
 - Pour in two or two and a half measures of natural water and stir 2 times

gaining in popularity all over the world.

WHISKEY AND YOUR HEALTH

Studies have shown that whiskey is low in calories and has many other health benefits because of the fact that it is distilled and aged in wooden barrels. A variety of nutritious components seep from the oak barrels into the whiskey, and these components have a positive effect on health. Also, whiskey aged for a long time absorbs the aroma from the barrels. This aroma puts anyone who tastes the whiskey into a relaxed state of mind, as if they are in a forest surrounded by nature.

Fact 1 Calorie of distilled liquor is low (60 Kcal for 30ml whiskey with 45% alc.). Brewed alcohol drinks contain little sugar, but distilled liquor contains almost no sugar.

Fact 2 Whiskey contains little purine. The amount is 1/450th of the amount found in beer. Also, whiskey prohibits purine-producing uric acid, and helps to discharge uric acid.

Fact 3 Oak barrel contains polyphenol, a type of antioxidant, and it seeps into whiskey while aging. Polyphenol is the most.

Fact 4 Aged whiskey contains a component that restrains an enzyme, tyrosinase, which accelerates melanin production.

HOW TO PAIR WHISKEY WITH FOOD

Since whiskey is made from grains like barley, it goes well with grain-based foods such as bread and mashed potatoes. During the distillation process meat is often smoked, therefore whiskey perfectly complements smoke-flavored dishes. Grilling, smoking, and smoking are the best cooking styles to pair with whiskey.

Aroma is another key factor for pairing foods. The aroma of whiskey comes out of the process of whiskey making: harvesting, fermenting, distilling, and aging the whiskey in barrels. Whiskey goes well with pickles, cheese and fermented ingredients seasoned with miso or soy sauce. Also, whiskey's clean aftertaste goes well with the taste of deep-fried dishes like tempura or oily Chinese dishes. Dried fruits and chocolates also help to bring out the sweetness of fine whiskey.



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YOU ARE ALMOST LIKE LOCALS IN TOKYO

PARKS IN TOKYO

Fall colors always dresses up cityscapes around the world when the air starts cooling down. When the Central Park starts looking romantic, downtown Tokyo also becomes places for urban relaxation. Park is the great place to meet locals and to see their ordinary life in Tokyo. Pack your daypack and hit the road to parks during your stay in Tokyo to find the casual side of the cosmopolitan.

▲TOKYO MIDTOWN, GREEN & PARK

Tokyo Midtown has just opened in this April in the heart of Roppongi, the red-light district in central Tokyo. This immediately became the hot tourism spot, attracting both locals and tourists. Other than the Ritz-Carlton Hotel, avant-garde museums and art studios, and world-famous Japanese architect's contemporary architecture, this brand-new office and commercial complex provides two outside parks for deep breaths. **Ninekocho Park** is located on the east side of the complex, and is one of a few places in central Tokyo where old scenes are maintained from Edo Period (1603—1868). The garden was originally one of the powerful clans in Japan in the 17th century, and four centuries later, it provides the fiscal air of cypress and the nostalgic view in the modern urban complex.



Midtown Garden is another green space in the complex. This space is the green oasis in the urban atmosphere, drawing urban strollers for short break and fresh air. This park is particularly friendly for the digital generation, providing wireless internet access in the park. Avoid Starbucks and sit down on the

lawn with your laptop to check e-mails, or open up your "e-jugider" to surf the digital world (<http://www.tokyo-midtown.com/en/tickets/green/index.html>)



▲MEIJI-JINGU SHRINE, HARAJUKU

Meiji-Jingu Shrine is originally built for the commemorative site of the Emperor Meiji, who reigned from 1868-1911. Today this is one of the famous shrines in Japan as Shinto-style traditional Japanese wedding ceremonies, New Year's pilgrimage. Located by the shopping district for younger crowds of Tokyo, this Shrine is dedicated to the deified spirits of Emperor Meiji and his wife, the first imperial leaders of modern Japan and passed away in 1912. The Shrine's property has dense wooded areas and **Yoyogi Park**,

one of the most popular and largest public parks in Tokyo, is also right next to it. In every year, Meiji-Jingu Shrine competes with other major shrines and temples in the country for the number of New Year's Day pilgrimage visitors, who come to the Shrine praying for a good year. The main path to the shrine is perfect for quiet stroll and escape from the urban noise. In fall, the property becomes colorful with leaves fall colors, and becomes the perfect urban getaway (<http://www.meijijingu.or.jp/english/>)

▲YOTOGI KOKEN PARK



Sharing the border with the lovely Meiji-Jingu Shrine, this is one of the Tokyo's most famous public parks for its area and location. The park was originally the US military compound after the World War II, then developed as the park and served as the Tokyo Olympic Village for the 1964 Tokyo Olympics. Since then, the Park has been not only the relaxation open space but also involved in sports-related events. Adjacent to the Park, the two buildings of **Yoyogi National Gymnasium** were designed by the world-famed Japanese architect, Kenzo Tange

for the 1964 Olympics, which add the cultural and design interest to stroll this park today. The location also brings a lot of "folkgates" to this park. The pop culture epicenter **Hasegajou** is on the East end of the park, and the traditional Japanese shrine stands guard the quiet woody property of Miyajima Shrine on the northern side of this park.

IMPERIAL PALACE



As absolutely the center of Tokyo, the **Imperial Palace** is the large open space in the middle of Tokyo. Although being a current imperial residence, the

East Gardens of the Palace is open to the public. With several traditional facilities such as guardhouses, tea houses and small Japanese gardens, walking through the **Imperial Gardens** would be the good opportunity to see the traditional architecture and botanic art. Lying on the grass would be a good outdoor relaxation under a calm full sun. The Palace is surrounded by the moat, along which is a local favorite bike path with occasional benches and small parks. The promenade also goes around the Palace and is well-known among the locals as one of the most popular running courses in Central Tokyo for amateur marathon runners.



It is a nice stop to sit down on the way to major landmarks in central Tokyo, and instead of crossing from one side to the other, why don't you get off the subway and take a walk through the Palace? Among nearby tourist spots include the **Imperial Hotel**, one of the Frank Lloyd Wright's designs. (<http://pankiss.kumohi.go.jp/english/guide/koalya.html>)

— Nan Akashi, Marketing Specialist at the New York Office of JNTO



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TO GET AROUND TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE TOKYO'S PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

Unlike New York City where streets run like grid lines, Tokyo streets are much like Paris or Rome with winding narrow paths and alleys. But just like other cities in the world, Tokyo has great public transportation systems, which takes you to wherever you go on time. The highest technology and the very efficiently programmed train schedules enable you to get around this dynamic city of Tokyo smoothly and punctually. In Tokyo, public transportation is the key to get around efficiently and several transportation tickets and offers are available for visitors. Take advantage of these offers, and cruise around Tokyo just like locals in the beautiful fall weather.

JR East-Tokyo Metro Subway

The subway system in Tokyo is operated by Toei and Tokyo Metro Subway and each line is shown in different color in the map and signs. Tokyo's train system charges per distance, so it would be more money if you go further. The subway system offers One Day Pass at 1,000 yen (a little over \$7) which you can purchase at most of the subway stations in Tokyo.

*Note that there are two subway companies in Tokyo, and Toei-Tokyo Metro One Day Pass covers both companies' lines.

Japan's Railway (JR)

Along with the subway lines, the central Tokyo is covered by regular trains operated by Japan Railway (JR) lines. JR's Tokyo Metropolitan District Pass (Tokaido Pass) is another very affordable and convenient train pass for multiple travelers in Tokyo, and

is available at 710 yen for unlimited ride on any JR lines within the Central Tokyo area (the pass is available between stations within "the 23 wards," which are mostly within Yamate and Chuo lines. Available to purchase at major JR train stations).

ASUKA / PASMO

If none of the above tickets is easy enough and comfortable for you, this brand new innovative system is for you. The IC card, a plastic pass with a small chip embedded is called ASUKA or PASMO (there are two distributors of the card and each has its own name), and once you add value on the card, you are ready to go on JR, Toei, subway and buses in the greater Tokyo area. Pay 2600 yen at the first purchase, which include 500 yen deposit for the IC card itself (refundable when return the IC card) and 1,500 yen for the minimum starting value. Once you get this innovative plastic card, you keep adding value at the ticket machine booth only for adding value. Although there is no discount at the pass, ASUKA and PASMO make it very easy to cruise around Tokyo because you only have to touch the small panel on the gate to go through, and you don't have to buy ticket for each ride. Since you most likely take multiple trips to get around, take advantage of this card, and the pass makes it much easier and faster for your ride. Available to purchase at major train stations. For more details, see <http://www.jrpass.co.jp/english/asmocha.html> or <http://www.pasmo.co.jp/english/index.html>



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😊 Clean is Happy! 😊

By Dede Lipp

When I think of a toilet, I think of the time I was traveling through Southeast Asia. They were everywhere, but I was apprehensive about using one at first. It was a concept I had trouble wrapping my mind around, mostly due to it being different from what I was used to. But after trying it, I discovered how much easier it was to use than a normal toilet.

At the TOTO store in SoHo, which is the company that makes the Washlet and is the manufacturer of some fabulous-looking bathroom products and technology, they explained that the Washlet is not a toilet, but a multi-function toilet seat that fits over any toilet. These various Washlets offer different functions, but most have a remote control with several features including a wand that comes out and shoots warm water to clean those needed areas and a dryer to finish the job. Throw in a heated seat and the ability to adjust where you want the water to clean and dry and you have one of the fanciest and most relaxing bathroom experiences ever. For anyone who has seen the website, the hysterical images of people's backsides wearing smiles immediately come up. Faces then pop-up to explain what the Washlet does with an infinite number of ways to politely say it: It's very fancy, memorable, and worth checking out alone.

One huge road goes to TOTO for making their Washlets eco-friendly so that they consume less water while being low maintenance. In Japan, like most Asian countries, the Washlet is a household name. Shuji Ishikawa, the regional sales director told me, "I think once people use the Washlet, they will know how much better it is than a toilet. In Japan, nobody knew what it was 50 years ago and today everybody uses them." Now TOTO has brought this technology to the West hoping to make a big splash!

After an explanation in TOTO's showroom about what a number of their available models do, I was able to use one and was pleasantly surprised to find out how efficient and clean the Washlet is. It opens the lid for you, cleans itself, warms the seat for you and does all the work, and is super easy to install. It's a concept I can see a lot of people really



Photographs by Takuya Sakamoto

enjoying, as buying toilet paper would become a thing of the past. Honestly, that sounds fine to me because running to the supermarket to get toilet paper late at night after you realize you have none can be, let's say, frustrating.

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www.totousa.com (Company's official site)
www.cleanhappy.com (Washlet's official site)

Secret tools the star chefs have — You find them at Korin Showroom

By Elizabeth Gallo

Have you ever wanted to own a set of these beautiful dishes that Nobu serves your sushi at? Look no further than the Korin Showroom. Owned by Sachi Kawano, Korin supplies most of the major Japanese restaurants and unusual non-Japanese ones as well. From those famously sharp knives, to sake cups, and even a few sushi chef jackets, this showroom has everything a restaurant could need. But restaurants are not the only shoppers at Korin, recently Ms. Kawano said more and more people are buying Korin's products for their homes. The Showroom has been at its current location in Lower Manhattan since 1996, however, Korin has been in New York City much longer. After first coming to New York Ms. Kawano realized many Sushi restaurants did not have the proper dishes. It was not long before she began selling the Japanese dishes she loved to these restaurants. Today, Korin has over 8,000 customers. Now that Korin is successful, Kawano has turned her entrepreneurial sights in a new direction and started The Gohm Foundation. A little over a year old, the Foundation intends to foster a culinary exchange between restaurant professionals. Kawano, who has unique insight into

the culinary world, saw that many American chefs wanted to learn about Japanese cuisine, techniques and culture, yet, no connection existed between chefs, restaurants, and countries to share culinary knowledge. It is the Foundation's goal to create this connection. Ms. Kawano has big plans for the Gohm Foundation and, if Korin's success is any indication, the ability to achieve them.

Monitor's Experience: the Showroom is currently under renovation but luckily for New York restaurants many of the great knives and tableware are still on display. These are not items to be put in a cabinet and admired, they are meant to be used. From simple elegance to more elaborate pieces, there are plates, bowls, teapots and cups, to make even your morning coffee look special. A beautiful hand-made dish from the store even made my dinner look delicious. According to Ms. Kawano, many restaurants have started using sushi plates to serve foods other than sushi. It certainly made my ice cream look great. What was even better was using a Japanese knife. You notice immediately how light the knife is, then you realize how it cuts. It is sharp and clean and easily slices vegetables and apples into fine pieces.

Korin, also, provides a DVD on how to sharpen and care for its knives. I will definitely look forward to using and sharpening my Japanese knife.



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Korin's beautiful tableware at Space Market. You can see beautiful selections of tableware at home.



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Other unique shops to check out:
*See Page 51 for more listings

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Acupuncture is a technique involving the insertion and manipulation of lifform needles into "acupuncture points" on the body with the aim of restoring one's health. The origin of acupuncture came from people in ancient China who believed that there was a universal life energy called Chi or Qi present in every living creature. Acupuncture works to "re-program" and restore normal body functions by stimulating certain points on the meridians in order to free up the Chi energy.

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Ikebana

Ikebana is the Japanese art of flower arrangement. It is a disciplined art form in which the arrangement is a living thing. Ikebana has been practiced for more than 600 years as a traditional art in Japan. It stemmed from the philosophy of developing closeness with nature and the Buddhist ritual of offering flowers to the spirits of the dead. The three predominant schools at the present time are Ikenobo, Ohara, and Sogotsu, but more than two thousand different schools of Ikebana are registered with the Japanese Ministry of Education.



Tea Ceremony



The **Japanese tea ceremony** is a traditional ritual influenced by Zen Buddhism in which powdered green tea is ceremonially prepared by a skilled practitioner and served to a small group of guests in a tranquil setting. Since a tea practitioner must be familiar with a wide range of disciplines and traditions in addition to his or her school's tea practices, the study of the tea ceremony takes many years, often lasts a lifetime. Even to participate as a guest in a formal tea ceremony requires the knowledge of the prescribed gestures and phrases, the proper way to take tea and sweets, and general etiquette in the tea room.



School Guide

Whether you're a student, parent, or teacher, we've got you covered.

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TRADITIONAL

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251 W 104th St (at Columbus St.)	212-622-6222	
Upper East	Eastwood Pottery	Pottery
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Upper East	Grassroots Creative Co.	Indian
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Midtown West	New York Times School	Pottery
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Midtown West	The Nippon Club	Indian
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Lower Midtown	Berkshire Flowers NY	Indian
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Brooklyn 40 years old (on David's 50th birthday) 1984-2008	Sara Aris	Wood
	Tate Bakery/pastry, chocolate cake, piping, etc. (local, Japanese) I believe was chosen for the night menu and wedding (and was the most difficult for event, although not the most expensive of course) - I think it was chosen for its presentation.	
Brooklyn 40 years old (on David's 50th birthday) 1984-2008	Samuel	Quilting
Brooklyn 40 years old (on David's 50th birthday) 1984-2008	Shirley	Quilting
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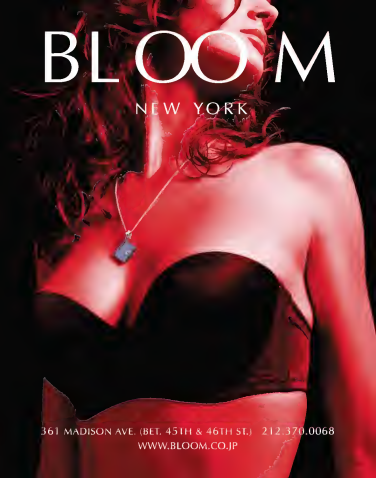
Tricks & Trivia

What is Shochu made from?

Mugi shochu (Barley shochu) and Potatoeshochu are popular shochu in Japan. It has a full and mild taste and clear color. Therefore it is good for mixed drinks as a base liquid, like 'Vodka'. The mixed drinks are called 'Chuhai' and served at bistro's in Japan. They are often mixed with soda and fresh squeezed fruits. Even if you don't have a stock of fresh fruit, you can enjoy Shochu with regular fruit juice. Create and enjoy your own Chuhai at home.



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Japanese Lesson #2

[phrase]

～をみせてください。

～o misete kudasai. (Please show me-- Let me see--)

Last month, you learned a Japanese phrase, “～o kudasai,” meaning, “May I have?” The phrase is practical, and it can be used any time you want something. Today you’re taking a huge step forward, just by adding one word to your list: “misete.” Put “misete” between “o” and “kudasai” in the previous phrase: “～o misete kudasai” means, “Please show me--” or “Let me see--.” If you want to see the menu in a restaurant, you can say, “Menu o misete kudasai.” Or if you want to check a chef’s worktable you would say, “Kodanmaku o misete kudasai.”

You have already learnt that you can use the demonstrative if you don’t know the specific Japanese noun you want to use. Do you remember what this word

was? It’s “kore.” “Kore o kudasai” means “Can I have this?” So you can say “Kore o misete kudasai” which means, “Let me see this.”

Now you’re ready to make your basic Japanese slightly more sophisticated by adding “sore” and “are” to your list of demonstratives. Both words are translated as “that” but the difference between them is clear: “Sore” points to things far from you but close to the one you talk to. “Are” points to things far from both you and the one you talk to. Needless to say, “kore” points to something close to both of you guys.

Check the following three patterns and see the difference.

Pattern 1

Kore o kudasai (Can I have this?)

Kore o misete kudasai (Let me see this.)

Pattern 2

Sore o kudasai (Can I have that?)

Sore o misete kudasai (Let me see that.)

Pattern 3

Are o kudasai

Are o misete kudasai (Let me see that.)

If you’re starting to get the hang of using “kore,” “sore,” and “are,” then your Japanese communication skill is progressing faster than you think!



Illustration by © Toshiyuki



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JAPAN'S EVERYMAN: KOJI YAKUSHO

By Grady Hendrix

When you're watching this month's period flick, **SILE**, about silk-worm smuggling and infidelity, look past the stars, Kate Winslet and Michael Pitt, and you'll notice that the man playing the Japanese baron, Hara Jubei, looks awfully familiar. You might have seen him in **SABER**, playing the long-suffering father to death-mate teenager. Or maybe you caught him playing the tragically scared Nobu in **MEMOIRS OF A GENTLEMAN**. In Hollywood he may be a supporting player, but in Japan he's a major star: meet the much-loved Koji Yakusho.

A one-time city worker, Yakusho has the rumpled charm of a government accountant, but his acting chops are ferocious. Horror master Kiyoshi Kurosawa regularly casts him against type, most memorably as the twin mad scientists in **DOPPELGÄNGER** and as a cop slowly driven mad by his own inner darkness in **CUBE**, and the results are always electrifying. He rocketed to stardom in 1996's **SHALL WE DANCE?** playing a meeky account-

ant who's given a new lease on life when he takes up ballroom dancing. One year later he won four of Japan's major "Best Actor" awards for **THE IDOL**, Shunji Iwamura's Cannes-award-winning film about a murderer released from prison and trying to start his life.

In the world of entertainment where youth reigns supreme, Yakusho is even more unusual because his secret weapons are his age, his experience and his ability to switch from terrifying to fatherly within seconds. To see what he can do, check out **BOUNCE KO GALS**, where he plays a student radical turned middle-aged yakuza. Unpredictable and menacing, he bums heads with a bunch of teenage hoodies who are working his gang's turf, but at the last minute, when all seems lost, he suddenly calls a halt to the escalating warfare. "There's been enough violence for one night," he says, and struts off singing the "Internationale." Is it an act of mercy or is he crazy? With Koji Yakusho, you never know.



SILE (2007)

Director: Francois Ozon
Cast: Kate Winslet, Michael Pitt,
Koji Yakusho, Adrien Laforet

Grady Hendrix writes Koji's Shaleash, a weekly blog about Asian entertainment.

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Jazz Night Package

With the jazz scene just as vibrant and alive today, live jazz performances are a key attraction to the city's visitors. The Kitano New York's Bar Lounge is considered by many as one of the city's top venues for live jazz performances hosting such jazz luminaries as Mel Martin, Don Friedman and Joe Locke during live evening performances. Now, The Kitano New York invites jazz connoisseurs to enjoy luxury hotel accommodations and experience these memorable performances with its special Jazz Night Package. With rates starting at \$350 per night, the Jazz Night Package is valid Friday and Saturday nights when the hotel

hosts its headline jazz acts. In the coming months The Kitano New York will feature a variety of renowned musicians including the Nelson Mate's Gleaner Voyage on October 5-6 and the Ronnie Cuber Band on October 26-27. This package features complimentary admittance to the evening jazz performance (\$15 food & drink minimum not included), breakfast for two at The Garden Cafe, late checkout at 1 p.m., complimentary jazz CD



as well as the two accommodations in a King/Double Superior King/Double Premier or King/Double Junior Suite room.

Rates are subject to availability. Black-out dates apply and package is exclusive of taxes and gratuities.



The Kitano New York

The Kitano New York opened its doors in 1972 as New York's first Japanese hotel. Thirty-two years later it remains the first and only Japanese owned hotel and has become an integral part of one of Manhattan's historic neighborhoods: Murray Hill. Located on fashionable Park Avenue at 38th Street, the 18-story hotel towers over some of New York City's most magnificent turn-of-the-century dwellings, offering spectacular views of the city landmarks. The hotel features 149 guestrooms, including 17 contemporary suites and a one-of-a-kind Japanese Takami Suite. The Kitano New York is home to the critically acclaimed Michelin-rated Hatake restaurant where traditional Kaiseki delicacies are served. The Kitano New York is also home to live jazz music featuring live performances by legendary jazz musicians who descend upon the hotel's bar lounge weekly to perform classic and contemporary jazz music. The Kitano New York is a member of Summit Hotels & Resorts, a consortium of deluxe hotels worldwide.



For more information
contact The Kitano New York at 212-685-7000
or 800-545-2666 or <http://www.kitano.com>.

Family Weekend Package

With its kid-friendly cultural attractions including Times Square, Central Park and Rockefeller Center, New York City provides families an adventure of a lifetime. The Kitano New York, Midtown Manhattan's kid-friendly refuge, is inviting families to experience all that the city has to offer with its Family Weekend Package, available each weekend with rates starting at \$325 per night.

Unlike many New York hotels, The Kitano features 149 spacious guestrooms and suites with custom-made furniture, flat screen plasma televisions and luxurious marble bathrooms, allowing families to feel at ease during their stay. In addition, the hotel's double-paned windows ensure that the sounds of the city do not disturb a good night's rest. This cost saving Family Weekend Package features complimentary breakfast in The Garden Cafe, cookies and milk delivered for the kids, a keepsake rubber duck, late check-out at 1 p.m. and no extra fees for a third person or extra bed with the accommodations in a King/Double Superior, King/Double Premier or King/Double Junior Suite room.



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Exhibition

July 29 to October 26

Social Darts New Orleans 1140 Days After

Sacred Sculpture Park

1311 Louis Blvd., Gretnahill City, KY

Exposing some of the social, political and environmental systems at work within New Orleans' fragile landscape, *Sacred Sculpture Park* explores contemporary issues shared by Garden-Maria-City, Christo Maya Co. and Robert Smithson. Social Darts New Orleans - 1140 Days After memorializes the tragedy endured by past and present Louisiana residents.

Info: 46-291-1322, www.sacredsculpturepark.org
www.kickstartfestival.com or info@kickstartfestival.com

September 6 to October 13

Days to go in My Garden by On Supremacy

NY Art Projects

147 West 21st St., NYC

Days to go in My Garden features two black-and-white photo series produced by the young photographer between 2003 and 2006. *Walk in the Night*, his first mature work, is a series of photographs spontaneously shot on deserted streets in Manhattan and Brooklyn. By contrast, his second series, *Paper Walls*, features faded photos of white paper set against white backgrounds, carefully staged in his small bedroom studio. Although seemingly very different, these two series share the distinctive sensitivity Segal masterpieces through his labor-intensive bedroom operation.

Info: 212-984-1122 or www.nyartprojects.org or info@nyartprojects.org

September 13 to October 27

Three by Kiyoko in Kiyoko 2007

POPCORN @ Gallery

147 West 21st St., NYC

The solo exhibition features 20 years, including the large format set of 24x36 inches painting-like print with plain and patterned on Japanese handmade Gampi paper. Kiyoko has been photographing landscapes with his unique aesthetics and philosophy for about two decades.

Info: 212-233-4333 or www.kiyokoart.com



Event Feature

Kiku: The Art of the Japanese Chrysanthemum

The New York Botanical Garden's Autumn Flower Show and Exhibition

October 26–November 18, 2007

The New York Botanical Garden

200th Street at River Road, Bronx, NY 10458-5120

Phone: 718-522-6000 <http://www.nybg.org/>

Kiku: The Art of the Japanese Chrysanthemum is the most elaborate flower show and cultural exhibition ever presented by The New York Botanical Garden. Visitors will discover the exquisite beauty of late-metabolically cultivated chrysanthemums, a traditional Japanese art form beloved in the scale outside of Japan. Cultivating *kiku* is exceptionally difficult, requiring expertise and constant attention throughout a 12-month growing period, during which time the plants are regularly weeded, pinched, staked, and tied to grow in a variety of highly specialized shapes. Marvel at what appears to be a massive flowered lot is in fact a single plant producing hundreds of semiblossoms. This Garden-wide exhibition also includes exquisite arrangements of bonsei, ikebana, Japanese puppets, and bamboo sculptures. "Plants of Japan in Illustrated Books and Prints" will be on display.

play in the Lathrop 1, Metrolibrary gallery along with a wide variety of late-themed programs for children and adults, including home-gardening demonstrations. Celebrating Japanese art, life and culture, this exhibition represents the culmination of an exclusive collaboration between the New York Botanical Garden and the New York Botanical Garden, blending East and West through the timeless beauty and honored tradition of *kiku*.



Kiku: The Art of the Japanese Chrysanthemum. The New York Botanical Garden, October 26–November 18. Photo by Robert LaBonte.

October 5 to January 15, 2008

Making a Home: Japanese Contemporary Artists in New York

Japan Society Gallery

200 East 47th St., NYC

To celebrate the strong and lasting cultural links between Japan and New York, Japan Society presents the large-scale group exhibition featuring the work of 33 contemporary Japanese artists who call New York City home, including Isao Ono, Ushio Shinohara, Kamei Suguru, Yukio Kamei, and Aya Okada. The show comprises a broad range of media—from painting and sculpture to video and photography—and covers diverse age groups, identities, experiences, and styles that will show the breadth and depth of contemporary Japanese art as developed, practiced, and presented in New York.

Info: 212-463-4112 or www.japansociety.org

October 18 to 27

On Space and Nothingness

The Nippon Club

145 West 21st St., NYC

The Nippon Club presents "Mu—On Space and Nothingness" by Ei Kawakita. Mr. Kawakita's first solo exhibition and American debut will feature his most recent work. As an architect for more than 20 years, Ei Kawakita occasionally explored how two-dimensional art could connect with contemporary architecture. He offers his vision in the painting, *The World of Black and White*, which illustrates his belief that light and shadow in architecture are

equivalent to white and black in visual art.

Info: 212-547-2000 or www.nipponclub.org



October 18 to 27

Sansumai—The Sansumai Movement

From Kagoshima to the World

Poppy Gallery New York

22-34 14th Ave., NYC

This exhibition is the first American group from Sansumai, currently Kagoshima prefecture, which is located in the southernmost tip of mainland Japan. The artists who are featured in this exhibition are close relatives Sansumai. The artists working in computer media, fashion, and picture books. Their work is inspired by the natural beauty and cultural history of Sansumai. The art movement "Sansumai" was created by these three Sansumai. It is an escape from modern relationships, polluted air, and the confusing battle of the big city, going back to their home of Sansumai. This exhibition made possible by Debra Shatz, a Sansumai

studio company with over 100 years of brewing history, is presenting the New York debut of these three contemporary artists who hail from the home of the shochu. The opening reception will be held on October 18th from 1pm to 5pm and the thousands of shochu will be served. "Sweet Potato Shochu Downback" will be served for the first time in New York, as well as "Wheat Shochu Down Gold" which is brewed around the world.

Info: Koko Beer 347-863-7030 or www.kokoppey.com



Performance

October 9, 16, 12, and 13

Tiger's Cave Butah Boot Camp (Butah: Tora no An) and Nippon

Japan Society
121 E 4th St., NYC

Following his company's sold-out shows in 2002 and 2003, masterful butah master Akira Matsui, who studied with butah movement founder Tetsuo Hiyokuni and founded Denso-ken in 1972, returns to Japan Society with the theaterfully explosive works created by members of his company. Under Matsui's mentorship his company member show choreographed more than two dozen works under the title Kachiken Series. Two of the latest Kachiken works will have their U.S. premieres: Tiger's Cave Butah Boot Camp (Butah: Tora no An), a new all male work from Kanetaka Matsui, and the all female Yagami, choreographed by Yuka Kobayashi. Special appearance by Akira Matsui for all performances.

Info: 212-775-1234 or www.jpamerity.org

October 12

Mini Tokyo Inside

Maxim Bar & Lounge

41 W 32nd St 2nd Floor at 4th/Univ. NYC

A Japanese singer/songwriter Miki Miyamoto performs at Maxim Bar & Lounge with songs from her brand new album "Dove." Although most of her songs are written in Japanese, her gorgeous melodic and beautiful clear voice always catches people's hearts and impresses them. She is also singing in a jazz-influenced, and has been performing with jazz musicians in NY.

Info: 212-724-0234 or www.miki-miyamoto.com

October 22

Tokyo Storying Quartet (Storying Quartet/Min Residence Ward St., NY)

1995 League of NYC

One of the supreme chamber music ensembles of the world returns for another memorable program. It will include Rayon String Quartet in 8-flat Major Op. 54, No. 1, Juan Bach: Fantasy for 4 Flutes Op. 33, Schumann: String Quartet No. 3 in D-flat minor Op. 30

Info: 212-413-1389 or www.flyng.org

Lecture/Forum/ Film/Festival

October 1

2007 Japanese Food & Restaurant Show

"Breaking Boundaries: Building Bridges: Japanese Restaurant Ingredients"

Metropolitan Pavilion & The Atrium Building

121 E 4th St., NYC

Some of the world's finest artisan-made ingredients made their U.S. debut last year at the Japanese Food & Restaurant Show in New York. Real Wagyu beef, sea salt smoked and cherry wood fired, live steaks and soy sauce aged in 100 year old cedar barrels were just a few of the items that became an instant sensation among the nation's culinary cognoscenti. This year's show promises to be the most exciting one yet, with more artisanal ingredients, and more workshops, demonstrations and tastings than ever before. Japan news column author and James Beard Award nominated cookbook author Hiroko Shibusaba heads up the demonstra-

tion kitchen. Throughout the day, also expert Michael Simace and shochu expert Yukari Hara will lead workshops, guided tastings, and food pairings, and, and enologists will share up-close cocktails behind the shochu bar. The event, produced by New York Market Trading, Inc., is open to members of the trade, retailers, restaurateurs, foodservice professionals, and members of the media. Registration is FREE.

Info: www.eyeb.com

October 4

Dwellies: Japanese and American children's musical Children

Herald Auditorium 184 Herald Hall (at E 4)

Bermard College 300 Broadway, NYC

Occupying 11 minutes of Japanese life scenes and discussing his film Dwellies: Japan and America's International Children. Over two years in the making, Dwellies features persons born of Japanese & American nationalities, from the turn of the century until today. In the 50 years since the end of World War II, what has changed and what remains the same for the international children of Japanese and Americans? Dwellies is a film in-depth look at the lives of the international children of Japanese and Americans made America as well as from inside Japan.

Info: 212-454-8551 or www.dwellies.com

October 7

Honorable House Japan/New York

Japan Society

121 E 4th St., NYC

Hop, Step, J-pop!

by Richard Kells

"Invasion?" Revolution!

American bookstores continue to expand their manga sides, including Chronicle, which is opening a second Manhattan outlet. Unlike Japan's Gap books over here Broadway and Mpls, Japan's pop culture gets a glow as it from magazine racks. In New York, the Japanese pop-pageries seem unstoppable.

But is it really an "invasion," as my book's subtitle claims?

The word invasion or shinkyu, teaches a new in Japan, a nation still sensitive to incursions of Asian invaders is World War II. And it contradicts one of Japan's key arguments: most of Japan's core of contemporary culture have not aggressively been introduced upon Western nations. Further, they have permeated Western culture via the Internet, cable television and DVD selling and trading.

I agree my subtitle in Japan is after the subtitle. Then solution was something along the lines of "the Japanese pop culture revolution"—a more positive spin. But still implies, with a wink, a radical sea of change.



Richard Kells is the full Japanese American author of *AMERICAN JAPANESE POP CULTURE HAS INVADERS* (the US, the co-editor of a 1982 *TIME* literary magazine and a lecturer at the University of Tokyo).



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